

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS

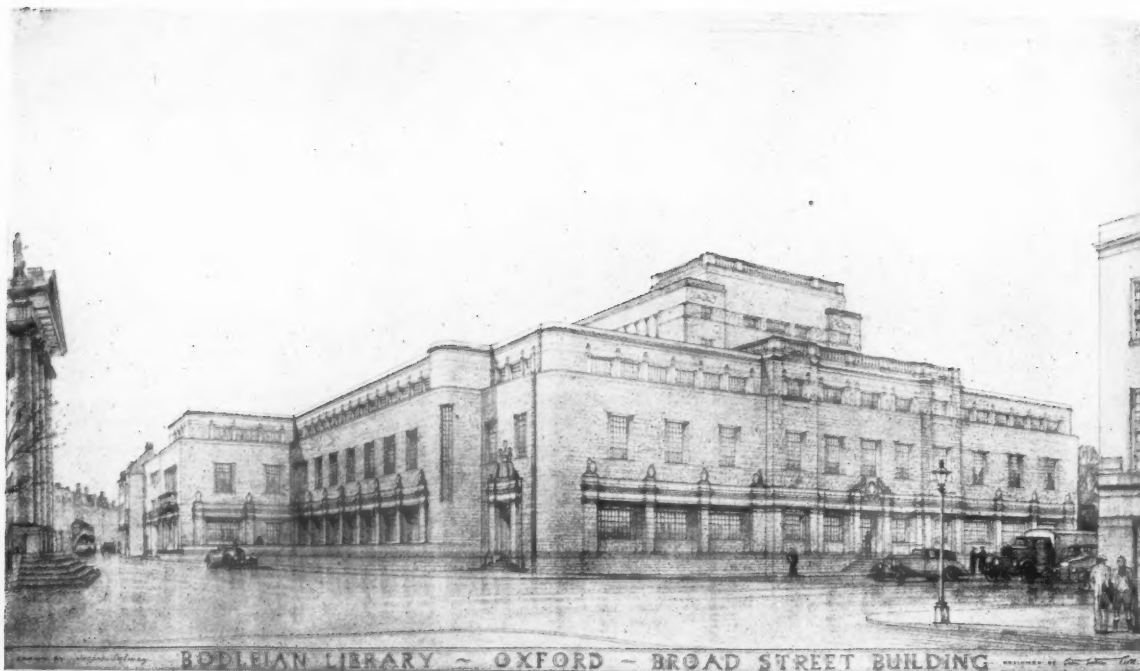
THIRD SERIES

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THE BODLEIAN BROAD STREET BUILDING

View of Sir Giles Gilbert Scott's design for the Bodleian Library, Oxford, Broad Street building, which was released for publication last week. The building, which will be one of the most important library buildings to be erected in this country for many decades, consists principally of a large central stack of eleven decks, three of which are below ground and two of which rise above the height of the rest of the building. The building has been planned to allow experiments in library administration to be made; consequently as few partitions as possible are permanent structures and the stack can be extended if necessary into space at present occupied by research rooms, etc. The maximum accommodation is for about 5,000,000 books. The reading room seats seventy or eighty readers, and there are administrative, committee and research rooms surrounding the stack on all sides. It is proposed to start building in the autumn and the library should be opened in 1938.

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Journal

R.I.B.A. DEPUTATION TO THE MINISTER OF HEALTH

On page 757 is a full report of the deputation to the Minister of Health to represent the case for the employment of qualified and registered architects on public building and development works. The deputation was strongly composed so as to be widely representative of all the interests involved. In addition to two members of the House of Lords and four members of Parliament were members of the R.I.B.A. and representatives of allied sections of the building industry. The statement of the case was made for the deputation by Sir Raymond Unwin, Mr. John Dower, Mr. R. L. Roberts (Past-President of the Institute of Builders), Mr. A. C. Bossom, M.P., Mr. John Laing, and other members. Lord Crawford and the President thanked the Minister for receiving the deputation. The speakers emphasised that the general quality of building in the country was much lower than it need be. The remedy, it was suggested, lay in the employment of qualified architects having full responsibility, either as salaried employees of the authorities concerned or as private practitioners, whichever was considered most appropriate in each case. As the deputation pointed out, the problem has many ramifications into such matters as the control of speculative building, town planning and the panel system.

The Minister was informed that the ultimate aim of the movement undertaken by the R.I.B.A. was to obtain for architects the full statutory recognition enjoyed by other professions, such as doctors, dentists and lawyers; the profession had paved the way to this by registration, which for the first time had defined legally what an architect was and would ensure in future the competence of the profession. In reading the Minister's reply it must be realised that the extent to which each local authority, by a long established tradition of local government, is responsible for affairs in its own area, makes the Minister not a dictator with power to control; he is, rather, an advisory authority who cannot be expected to do more than give any proposal his public blessing. As an indication of his good will, he did, however, promise to stress on local authorities the importance of employing architects in rehousing work for the abatement of overcrowding in rural districts. It is interesting to note that a few days later, at the annual general meeting of the

C.P.R.E., he publicly drew attention to the fact that "many of the authorities were undoubtedly handicapped by the lack of skilled advice and architectural experience. . . ." "He believed," he said, "it was very important in most cases that a qualified architect should be employed."

The Institute can congratulate itself that an important step in the move towards Statutory Recognition has been taken. The ultimate aim will be achieved in time, but it may be a long time. The campaign is in the hands of the Public Relations Committee, who are advising the Council, and they can be relied on to pursue it with energy and as rapidly as circumstances permit. The help of the Allied Societies with Local Authorities in their areas will be of great value.

DISCUSSION AT THE R.I.B.A. MEETINGS

The one hundred and second Annual General Meeting was held on Monday, 11 May, when the Annual Report was formally accepted. At some of the annual general meetings in previous years there have been long and even exciting discussions on the details of the report, but this year, apart from Mr. Gilbert Jenkins's careful analysis, which is published on a later page in this number of the JOURNAL, there was no discussion at all. It is sometimes suggested that more opportunities should be provided for open discussion of the Institute's affairs and of public affairs related to architecture, yet when such an opportunity is given, with an agenda as wide as the whole of R.I.B.A. activity, no discussion ensues. At these annual meetings the chairmen of committees are all present to be cross-questioned. It cannot be expected that they should open the discussion; the various committee reports are their statements, published not merely to inform but to stimulate intelligent opinion. The discussion must originate, as Mr. Jenkins stated in his opening words, among members who are not so closely concerned with the official affairs of the R.I.B.A. that anything they say will be taken as inspired by a desire to uphold the *status quo*.

It would be difficult to decide why exactly no discussion was raised on the 11th. Perhaps it is just that an inevitable ennui settles over any meeting faced with forty pages of report. People do, as we know, have opinions sympathetic and apoplectic about a hundred and one items in the report, but cannot dare to embark on a discussion which in prospect may seem

likely to be endless, or, if not endless, too short for satisfaction. The general meeting on 22 June, when the results of the elections are announced, is another occasion when any member can open discussion. We understand that Col. Garforth's talk will not be long; it will be followed by discussion if any is opened, and then the meeting will be free for general discussion on any topics raised by members. If any member wishes to raise a point of importance he is advised to send notice that he intends to do so to the Secretary, who will then be in a position to assure that time is available.

THE JUBILEE OF THE SVENSKA TEKNOLOGFÖRENINGEN

Professor Patrick Abercrombie is now in Stockholm as the Royal Institute's delegate at the celebrations of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the foundation of the Svenska Teknologföreningen. He has carried with him an Address of Welcome from the Institute signed by the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer and the Secretary, worded as follows:—"TO THE SWEDISH ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS: The President, Council and Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects desire to extend to the Svenska Teknologföreningen, on the occasion of the celebration of the 75th anniversary of its foundation, their cordial and fraternal greetings and congratulations.

"The debt which the architects of Britain owe to those of Sweden is ever present in our minds. Only ten years ago it was our privilege to honour one of the greatest of living architects—Ragnar Ostberg—by recommending to His late Majesty King George V that he should award to him that most distinguished tribute, the Royal Gold Medal for Architecture.

"Our architects, old and young, turn continually towards Stockholm to refresh their imaginations by studying the past and present achievements of your brilliant designers. The link of friendship which binds together the architects and the representative architectural societies of Sweden and Britain grows stronger year by year. May the Svenska Teknologföreningen flourish ever more and more."

THE DINNER TO MR. HOWARD ROBERTSON

On 8 May one hundred and forty-eight members of the Architectural Association met to dine at the Savoy Hotel in honour of Mr. Howard Robertson, who is relinquishing his post as Director of Education of the A.A. School. The gathering was widely representative of all generations of A.A. staff and students, and fully bore out Mr. Robertson's own words that "Nobody ever leaves the A.A." The wide influence of Mr. Robertson was reflected in the speakers who supported the President, the Hon. Humphrey Pakington, in proposing the health of the guest of the evening. The President of the R.I.B.A. first referred to Mr. Robertson's valuable work on the R.I.B.A. Council and

Committees. Mr. E. M. Rich, Education Officer of the L.C.C., discussed his influence in education. Professor A. E. Richardson (at his wittiest) spoke on behalf of other architectural schools. His clients were represented by Mr. Miles Thornehill, a director of the Savoy Hotel. His work as an architectural writer and critic was praised by Mr. Charles Marriott. Mr. Claude Miller spoke as a colleague, and Mrs. Edna Knott as an ex-student. It was, however, Professor Richardson who pointed out that the perfect monument to Mr. Robertson's work was printed on the back of the menu: "Howard Robertson. Architectural Association School of Architecture. 1920 . . . 1935."

ARCHITECTS AND INSURANCE

This delicately engraved view of London buildings and its gracefully replete frame is from a receipt of the Architects', Civil Engineers', Builders' and General Fire and Life Insurance Annuity and Reversionary Interest Company, dated 1856. It comes from the same miscellaneous collection of Smirke relics as the frontispiece in the last JOURNAL, and is published as being faintly relevant to the Architects' Insurance article in the last number.





The B.B.C. Orchestra under Dr. Adrian Boult playing in Queen's Hall

"The history of concert halls in England has been deplorable. . . .

"... the appointments of the hall, particularly the accommodation for the performers, are important too. When the—festival was revived . . . it was found that everything which a practical musician would have insisted on as to the placing of choir and orchestra had been completely neglected. The choir seats faced the audience, not the conductor; the orchestra was so spread out that the conductor had constantly to use both hands for the same action if his players on both sides of him were to see what he was doing. Civic corporations are apt to think

of musicians as fussy and tiresome people . . . who must be kept in their place. . . . They are inclined to make up in upholstery for the audience what they neglect in practical convenience for the musicians." (From an article in *The Times*.)

"It cannot be said that last night's performance . . . was wholly worthy. . . . When the piano was produced from under the orchestra half the string players had to shift themselves, their seats and their stands to make room for it. Worse, the conductor's stand was so placed that he could only see the soloist by turning his head, which he had constantly to do. Fortunately, the sang-froid of the brilliant soloist triumphed over all." (From a recent newspaper report.)

MUSICAL REQUIREMENTS IN PLANNING CONCERT HALL PLATFORMS

Most big towns have their Assembly Halls, which generally have been designed to serve a number of uses which cannot, in fact, be satisfied by a single hall. The requirements of rooms for symphony concerts, chamber music, recitals, public meetings, dances, exhibitions and displays differ so basically that if, as is generally the case, one hall has to be used for all these purposes its efficiency for all is certain to be impaired.

Even halls which have been designed definitely as concert halls cannot be used successfully for all the types of concert which will probably have to take place in them. It is not merely an acoustic problem; by the use of screens and curtains to adjust absorbents and reflectors changes can be effected to make a room used

normally for symphony concerts quite good acoustically for recitals, but nothing whatever except Alice in Wonderland's cake could make the Albert Hall, for instance, the right size for the intimate quality of the music placed by the Lener quartette or Yehudi Menuhin to be appreciated fully.

These problems are outside the scope of this article, which is simply to help architects to design platforms which shall satisfy the needs of the musicians who use them and the orchestral managers who not only have the desperate job of fitting the players on to the platform, but must also satisfy the individual tastes of distinguished conductors.

There is one notorious example of a public hall in

which the architect was made to design a ceremonial entry for speakers who were considered to be too grand to come on from the side as is normal. The vast stair from the basement which was provided to satisfy this civic megalomania opens on to the centre of the platform so as to ruin it almost for most orchestral performances. No doubt for that reason the owners of the building lose revenue which they might derive from profitable concerts.

Probably nothing that an orchestra requires can detract from the use of a platform for other purposes, whereas undue emphasis on non-orchestral needs can seriously affect the use of the hall for concerts, and may even bring upon the city concerned the publicly expressed wrath of some world-famous conductor.

THE ORCHESTRA

Apart from any artistic difficulties there may be in performing chamber music in a large hall designed to hold mass meetings, a small orchestra can almost always be arranged satisfactorily on a large platform, but the whole quality of performance of a large orchestra can be seriously impaired if the players are overcrowded,



if the conductor cannot see the players or they cannot see him, if performers are made nervous by the fear that their chairs, music stands or instruments will slip over the edge of too narrow tiers, or if lighting is patchy so that certain sections of the orchestra have the added difficulty of hardly being able to see their parts.

Our sole concern here is with platforms for large orchestras of the symphony orchestra type. As a guide to the number and variety of instruments used, the table showing the composition of the B.B.C. Orchestras is given here by permission of the Corporation.

THE B.B.C. ORCHESTRAS

The smaller orchestras into which the full B.B.C. Orchestra can be divided—each complete in itself, and suited, in numbers and balance, to the types of music entrusted to it—are:

INSTRUMENTS	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.
First Violins	20	14	6	12	8
Second Violins	16	12	4	10	6
Violas	14	10	4	8	6
Cellos	12	8	4	7	5
Double Basses	10	7	3	6	4
Flutes	5	3	2	3	2
Oboes	5	3	2	3	2
Clarinets	5	3	2	3	2
Bassoons	5	3	2	3	2
Horns	8	4	4	4	4
Trumpets	5	3	2	3	2
Trombones	6	3	3	3	3
Tuba	1	1	-	1	-
Timpani	2	1	1	1	1
Percussion	3	3	-	2	1
Harps	2	1	1	1	1
	119	79	40	70	49
	119			119	

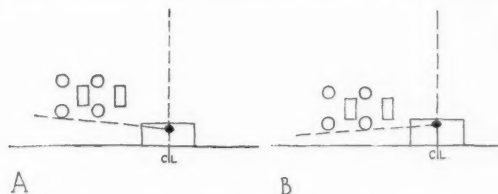
The B.B.C. Orchestra A is abnormally large; few provincial platforms would have to be designed for an orchestra of more than about eighty players. Even the big world-famous orchestras when they tour seldom take more than about 110 players.

These figures represent the standard B.B.C. combinations; frequently provision has to be made on the platform for the addition to the number of instruments in particular sections. In much modern music there may be up to five each of the wood-winds with correspondingly heavy brass. No architect can, or if he could would be wise to, tailor-make his platform to the needs of a particular orchestra. Every well-designed platform will be sufficiently flexible to allow variations within the generally recognised sizes and types of modern orchestras and the desires of visiting conductors. Architects must recognise from the start that their platforms will certainly be called on to serve a variety of uses even within the restricted range of orchestral use. They must design accordingly.

THE CONDUCTOR

The conductor must be where he can obtain a good clear view of every player and where he can be seen by all. This inevitably means that except in the case of

small chamber orchestras he must be raised above the level of the flat. Since conductor's tastes vary, it is inadvisable to provide a fixed rostrum which cannot easily be adjusted in height and position. Some conductors, for instance, prefer a comparatively low stand, with no railing at all, back, sides or front, and to have an ordinary movable music stand. Some take their own rostra with them on tour, making it necessary for the hall rostrum to be easily removable. The architect should, however, assure that no feature in his design ever makes it necessary to place any of the players behind the conductor, but no hard-and-fast



rules can be made. Most continental conductors in concertos prefer to stand *between* the pianoforte and the orchestra, where they can hear better and not have to peer over the pianoforte lid to see the centrally placed players. Ideally it should be possible for the outside row of the string players to be inside the 180° line.

The floor of the conductor's stand will vary in height above the "flat" from 1 ft. 3 in. to 2 ft. 6 in. The rail should be as simple as possible, nothing more than four uprights and a single top rail.

THE PLAYERS

Fiddles.—Almost invariably the first fiddles are on the conductor's left. They and the players of most other instruments sit in pairs sharing a desk. The "flat," as the level portion of the platform is called, should be large enough to take all the strings if possible. (This is a counsel of perfection.) As far as fiddles are concerned there should be room for four players side by side.

Two fiddles, with chairs and a desk, will need a space about 4 feet by 3 feet. Generally speaking, the players are seated as close to each other as possible. A dispersed arrangement has little to commend it.

Second fiddles are usually on the right, placed in the same way as the first fiddles, or on the left, next to the

first fiddles, in which case, unless the flat is wide, they will extend up the rise. In this case, the 'cellos and violas which might otherwise be on the conductor's right are forced up the rises and into the central part of the flat.

Violas.—The violas are generally placed on the flat in the right centre. They need the same space per player as fiddles.

'Cellos and Basses.—The 'cellos and double basses are difficult instruments to place comfortably. Serious trouble can result unless the level part of each tier is adequate to take chair, music stand and the peg of the instrument without risk of upset or disturbance of the players in the row in front.

If for some reason it is impossible to provide 4 ft. 6 in. tiers, extensions should be provided which can be used to build up a tier to the necessary width.

These extensions must be made to fit close and true, and to be secure against all movement. There must be no risk of a chair or music stand leg or 'cello peg slipping into the joint.

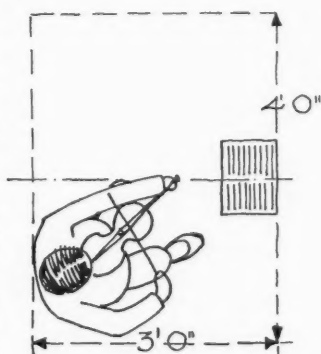
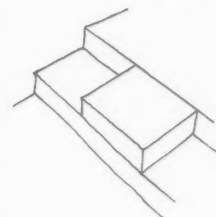
Wood Wind.—These are usually placed centrally; the players of each type of instrument sit side by side, sharing one desk to two players. The smaller instruments need no more room than that required by a man sitting upright with a music stand in front. 2 ft. by 3 ft. is generally sufficient. Bassoons need more space laterally, and should be given 3 ft. by 3 ft. Certain players use two instruments, and need space for the second instrument. Peg stands are usually supplied for the purpose.

Brass.—The smaller brass instruments need no more than sitting space with, of course, provision for the music stand. Large instruments, such as trombones or tubas, should be given more. Trombones must be given room for full extension clear of the slide. The orchestral manager will generally try to plan trombone seating so that trombonists do not have to extend their instruments *between* the heads of players in front. The brass is generally seated so that one player does not have the bell of his instrument close to the ear of a player in front.

The placing of these instruments does not affect the actual design of the platform, and is only given here as a guide to the amount of room likely to be needed.

Percussion.—These are more trouble to place satisfactorily than almost any other players. Certain composers call for an infinity of different percussion instruments, most of which need considerable clear, level space. Platform extensions must be provided. (See 'cellos and basses, above.)

Tympani need a semi-circle of between 2½ to 3 yards in diameter.



Percussion instruments are always placed on the highest rises in use, though it has been suggested that musically a better blending of drums and the other instruments would be obtained by placing the former at the back of the flat in the centre.

One player may deal with two or more instruments, and space must be calculated accordingly. As much as 15 ft. length of tier extension may be wanted.

THE ORGAN

All fully equipped concert halls will have an organ. The position of organ chambers was dealt with by Mr. Percy Thomas in his paper on Municipal buildings in the *JOURNAL* last year (*R.I.B.A.J.* Vol. XLII, p. 480) and further information can be found in books on acoustics. The position of the organ and the organist need not be the same. It is as necessary for the organist to be in close contact with the conductor as for any other performer; consequently to have the console in a gallery, as at Queen's Hall, is bad. It is possible now to arrange the console on an electrically operated platform which can be lowered out of the way: if this is done the console can be placed centrally at the back of the flat. The presence of a large semi-fixed unit of equipment undoubtedly destroys some of the platform's flexibility, but it is difficult to place the console so as to satisfy everyone. An alternative position might be at the side, with the organist seated so as to see the conductor without using a mirror.

THE CHORUS

In English provincial life choral concerts are much more important than occasional visits of large orchestras. Ample provision should be made on the platform for a chorus of not less than 250 persons, allowing space for an orchestra of medium size as well. The members of the chorus can be seated reasonably close to each other. They invariably stand while singing, so space must be provided to make this comfortably possible.

GENERAL PLATFORM DETAILS

Some of the detail sizes have been given above.

Multipurpose halls may have all the tiers or rises removable so as to free the platform for other uses than concerts, but, if this is so, adequate storage must be provided for the tier units, which are stoutly made and heavy, and cannot easily be moved far.

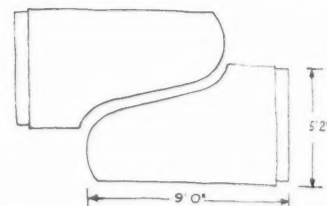
A platform for concert use only may be planned so that the rises fill the whole platform except only a semicircular flat in the centre large enough at least to take two grand pianos. By planning the hall in this way perfect sight lines between instrumentalists and conductor could be obtained, but probably there would be some waste of space since the strings could not be seated as close on the rises as on the flat.

The Flat.—The flat should be 40 ft. to 60 ft. in width, i.e., the full platform width, and 15 ft. to 18 ft. in depth. This will take four players side by side, with passage way to spare for the conductor and soloists to pass to

the centre of the platform. If space for fewer than four players abreast is given, care should be taken to see that the platform width is adequate, or it may prove impossible to fit in the fiddles.

It is possible, as at Queen's Hall, to provide a forward extension to the flat, brought out on runners from under the permanent flat.

This makes it possible to have only a very narrow flat when not more is wanted, and for the owners of the hall to add to the stall seating.

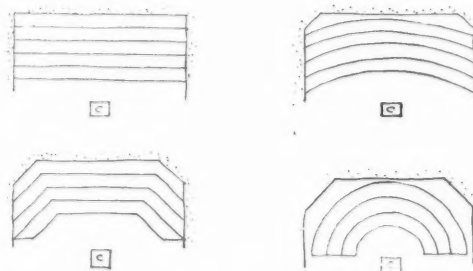


At many concerts one or two concert

grand pianofortes will have to stand on the flat immediately beneath the conductor. Adequate space can usually be provided in the segmental space at the foot of the tiers. For two-piano concertos the pianos are usually placed so that their players face each other.

There must also be space for vocal soloists to sit well to the front of the stage, and for instrumental soloists. All soloists should, if possible, be given places where they will be able to catch the conductor's eye; unless the conductor's rostrum is placed well forward, vocal soloists particularly, who like to stand at the front of the platform, may be behind the conductor. A small extension of the platform forward for the conductor only is a good way of assuring that he will be able to see all the soloists without driving them back from the front of the platform.

Rises.—Rises should be 3 ft. minimum, 4 ft. 6 in. maximum in width, above 4 ft. 6 in. the orchestra merely becomes dispersed, and the upper ranges of instruments too far from the conductor for easy control. Lower rises for wind and smaller strings can be 3 ft., and upper rises for 'cellos, double basses and percussion 4 ft. 6 in.; but it is an advantage, wherever possible, to have the lower rises capable of taking 'cellos and double basses, thus permitting maximum variations in the layout of orchestras. In planning the rises it should be borne in mind that the platforms of most halls will on



occasions be used to seat part of an audience—at mass meetings, etc. The tiers must allow this.

The vertical dimension of the rise can vary as long as it is sufficient to assure that the players and conductor are in view of each other. It should also be remembered that the audience like to see the players. A good depth is 1 ft. 6 in.; sometimes greater depths are used, but are apt to be dangerous.

The rises should curve round; the more the radius of the curve can centre on the conductor the better. Some platforms have rises parallel with the front of the stage, but this inevitably means that the players must sit askew to face the conductor.

(See plans of existing concert hall platforms.)

There is no ideal height for the platform floor level above the stalls floor level. It is not generally advisable to make it any higher than is absolutely necessary for sight or acoustic purposes. The higher it is, the more the front stalls are forced back, which results in loss of revenue to the hall. Also, it has been suggested by psychologists that it is exhausting to look upwards for long, particularly towards a light.

FURNITURE

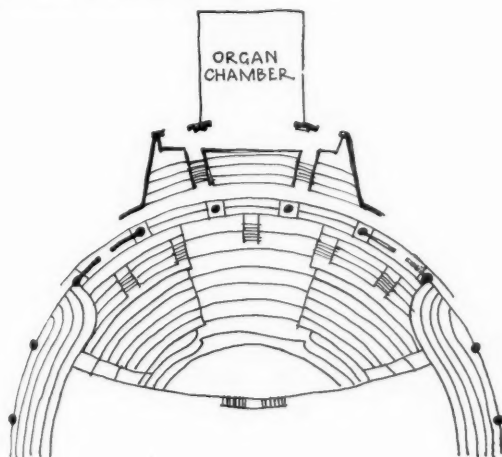
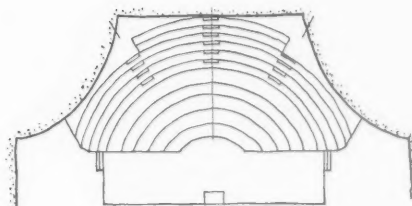
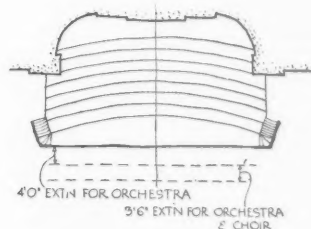
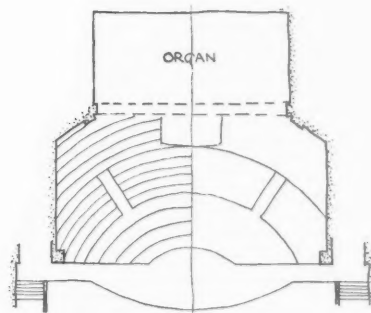
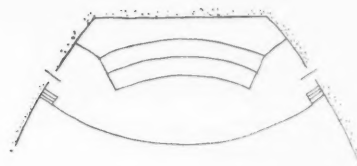
Chairs.—Generally players like firm, even hard, upright chairs. Wood wind and brass particularly like chairs so.

Any of the usual all-metal stackable chairs are good.* So are cane or ply-bottomed "kitchen chairs." All kinds are at present in use in Queen's Hall.

Double basses and tympani need special stools with the seat 2 ft. 6 in. off ground.

Lighting.—It is never necessary to provide for individual lights on each music stand, but care must be taken to see that every player has good, even light.

*See R.I.B.A. Journal, 23 February 1935, Vol. XLII, p. 481, for details of stackable chairs.



10 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80
SCALE OF FEET

Various platform plans. Above, reading from the top: Göteborg; Colston Hall, Bristol; Free Trade Hall, Manchester; and Queen's Hall. On the left: the Stadthalle, Hanover.

The outside players are often forgotten. No light fitting must be in such a position that a player, lifting his eyes for a moment, will be blinded by glare from an unscreened source. Probably the best system of lighting is by powerful, vertically directed floods set in the ceiling as at Queen's Hall. Any auditorium lights to be left on during a performance should be weak or carefully screened.

Where the light in the auditorium is very much lowered during a performance, it sometimes happens that vocalists at the front of the platform or the conductor when he turns round have their faces almost in darkness. This should be avoided.

Music Stands.—The architect will not usually have to consider the provision of stands, but he should be aware of the types in use so as to provide proper floor space.

In the Queen's Hall, in addition to the ordinary collapsible kind, stands without feet are provided; the pillar fixes into "u"-shaped sockets in the rise fronts spaced at about 9 in. These economise in tier width to a fair extent, but care has to be taken in placing the players so that their heads are clear of the stands of the players behind.

PROVISION FOR BROADCASTING

It is generally desirable to-day to make provision for broadcasting. This involves the provision of suitable accommodation, probably behind the platform, for the amplifying equipment and for the engineer and the control man to work. Contrivances must also be provided by which microphones can be slung in whatever positions the experts may choose.

The control room must be acoustically isolated from the platform, so that the controller may concentrate on his instruments and listen to the broadcast by means of a loud-speaker, and not hear the original sounds. It should, however, be so situated as to provide convenient access to the platform for consultation with the conductor during rehearsal.

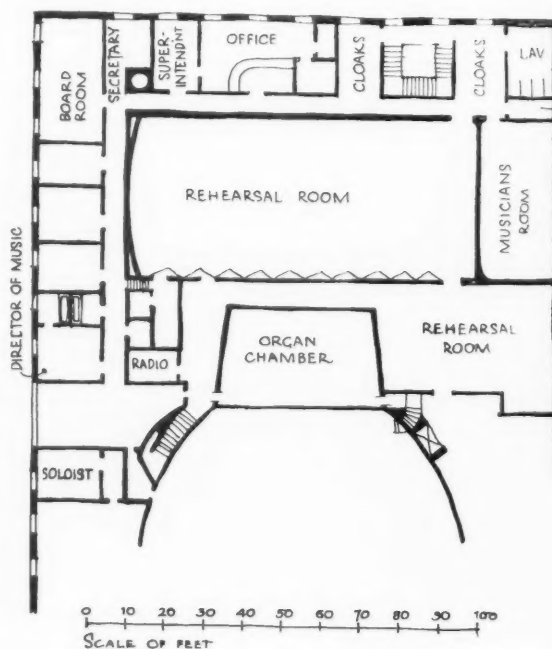
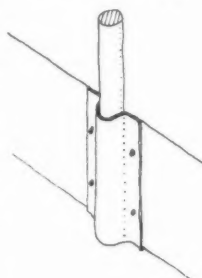
The ideal arrangement is to have two adjacent rooms, one for the greater part of the apparatus and one for listening and operating the controls associated with the various microphones. The former room should be about 6 ft. by 10 ft. and the latter not less than 12 ft. by 10 ft. In smaller listening rooms satisfactory acoustical conditions for critical listening cannot be obtained. Some acoustical treatment of the listening room is most desirable. If two rooms cannot be obtained, use can be made of one for both purposes, provided it is not less than 15 ft. by 12 ft. in size. Less accommodation is detrimental to satisfactory broad-

casting, and can only be considered as an emergency arrangement.

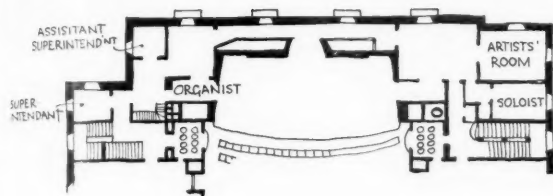
The microphones are slung in front of the orchestra. Their position varies with the types of music being played and with the type of microphone used. The latest type of microphone, the ribbon, can be placed much farther from the players than older types.

It must be noted, although this article does not attempt to deal with hall acoustics, that the use of a hall for broadcasting renders consideration of its acoustics of even greater importance than otherwise. In particular, the architect should consider means of making the acoustic properties as far as possible independent of the presence of an audience, so that microphone positions determined during rehearsal shall be equally satisfactory during the actual performance.

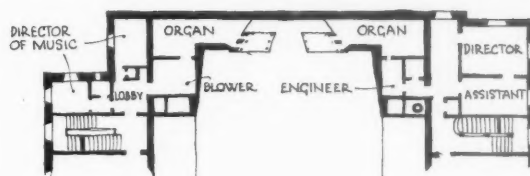
The architect should attempt to ascertain what the B.B.C. requirements are likely to be, whether or not broadcasting has been contemplated for the hall in question. Normally, unless the hall is a regular broadcasting centre, all that is necessary is the provision of fixings from which the microphone is slung. If frequent broadcasting is to take place, proper cables and pulleys and access boxes should be provided.



Accommodation behind the platform, Göteborg



FIRST FLOOR.



SECOND FLOOR.

Stockholm

PLANNING BEHIND THE PLATFORM

Green Rooms, Etc.—Ideally, separate rooms should be provided for

- (a) Conductor.
- (b) Soloists and leader.
- (c) Instrumentalists. Large enough for a full orchestra and their instruments.
- (d) Small room for female members of orchestra. In recent years the number of women in orchestras has increased.
- (e) Cloak rooms and lavatories, male and female, with space for changing clothes.

(a) and (b) are frequently combined, but the conductor should be enabled to retire to rest alone. An instrument store can be provided in addition to the orchestral rest-room (c). It should be remembered that 'cellos and double bass cases take up a lot of room; if no place is provided, they will be stood in corridors, causing untold confusion.

In Municipal Halls it is frequently possible to use committee-rooms, etc., as rest-rooms, but if this is intended there must be reasonably direct communications.

Visiting orchestras often like to change their clothes at the place where the concert is to be held. In one

English concert hall, a changing-room can only be provided by closing one of the public refreshment-rooms and using it for the purpose.

Passages.—Passages leading to the platform should all be wide and as free as possible from awkward turns and steep flights of stairs to enable large instruments (double bass and grand piano) to be conveyed easily.

If the upper tiers of a platform are used to seat the public when the full platform space is not required for performers, there should be direct access from the street leading to the seats so used which does not interfere with the performers' passage-ways.

This article has been written with the generously given help of many experts. Our thanks are particularly due to Dr. Adrian Boult, musical director of the B.B.C., Mr. Frank Howes, Miss Iris Lemaire, Mr. R. C. Pratt, B.B.C. orchestral manager, Mr. F. W. Endicott of the B.B.C., for information on broadcasting arrangements, and Mr. C. S. Taylor, manager of Queen's Hall, London. The photographs are reproduced by courtesy of the B.B.C.



B.B.C. Orchestra. Note the extension to the rise on the right, showing the dangerous gap between the extension and the fixed rise, at the Queen's Hall. Double basses and 'cellos sit on special chairs placed on the edge of one rise, the pegs of their instruments being on the rise below

LONDON UNDER STATUTORY PLANNING

A CHADWICK MEMORIAL LECTURE READ AT THE R.I.B.A. ON THURSDAY, 7 MAY

PROFESSOR STANLEY D. ADSHEAD, M.A.Livpl., Hon.M.Arch.Livpl., F.R.I.B.A.

The approval of the Minister of Health to the preparation of a planning scheme for the whole of London was granted in May, 1935. Previously about 12 schemes had been initiated covering areas varying from 7,000 acres at Greenwich to 20 acres at Streatham Common. The Authority was the London County Council.

Of these, two—Hampstead Heath and Streatham Common—had received the approval of the Minister; the others were in various stages of preparation. The coming into operation of the resolution to plan the whole of the County in May, 1935, filled in the interstices, and set at work the machinery for planning a built-up area of far greater complexity than anything yet attempted. Early town planning schemes only included undeveloped land, land that was so situated in connection with undeveloped land that it ought to be included, or land providing archaeological, historic or artistic interest, and this often covered, as at Sunbury, whole urban districts on the ground that they could claim to have one or other of these qualifications.

The Act of 1932 is framed to include built-up areas, but in actual practice it only affects re-building, and even so during the interim period of preparation it cannot prevent an owner from perpetuating existing conditions, if he wishes to do so.

Any building may be pulled down and re-built to the same height and cubic capacity, and of similar character, if the site has not been left vacant for a longer period than two years (Section 10, sub-section 3). This is a very important proviso that takes effect during the preparation of the scheme—a matter of several years at the very least, and many objectionable buildings can be made permanent during that period.

Let me take one or two examples—I have in mind a piano factory in a purely residential district: it is an old factory and produces the screeching noise of circular saws. Provided the cubic capacity is not exceeded and re-building commences the day before the Minister finally approves the Scheme, it can be rebuilt with all the attendant and discordant noises so far as town planning can affect it; or, I have in mind a delightful old cottage in Hampstead, that has no bathroom. The site is very restricted though it is very open by reference to adjoining buildings. By raising part of the roof, a bathroom could be added, but this would affect the cubic capacity, and brings into operation all the requirements of a planning scheme including the question of curtilage, which is inadequate according to the town planning requirements—so the cottage must remain without a bathroom or be pulled down.

Innumerable cases could be quoted where Section 10 (sub-section 3) will neither permit of improvement nor prevent the perpetuation of something that is quite incompatible with the consistent development of the district.

The powers contained in the Act of 1932 in regard to building on sites that have been vacant for over two years, or in cases where the building owner now finds it in his interest to re-build to the planning requirements of the scheme in preference to re-building to existing conditions, are very drastic. They embrace control of height, bulk, use and appearance, without compensation for loss presumed to be sustained by compliance with requirements not demanded by the Building Acts.

And this brings me to a difficulty of administration. The difficulty of deciding when and where the Building Acts are operative, and where Town Planning.

At the present time, and under existing conditions of legislation, "Town Planning" approval to a proposal can be asked for and obtained without reference to the requirements of the Building Acts, which may, or may not, be complied with, Building Act consent being obtained later.

The difficulty of separating the one from the other is largely due to the trend of town planning legislation, which has tended to become more and more meticulous in its detail.

When town planning first became the subject of an Act of Parliament in 1909, the intention was to control development in general, but as experience has been gained, this control of general development has been allowed to invade the precincts of Bye-law administration and to confuse the issue where the Building Acts are concerned. It is impossible to separate the one from the other. Moreover, many of the Model Clauses proposed for insertion as Regulations in a Town Planning scheme, depend for their support upon Acts of Parliament other than the Town Planning Act, and there is not so much new power behind them as there would seem.

As a result of this criss-cross of control, the Building Act Committee and the Town Planning Committee of the London County Council have amalgamated, and are prepared to deal with both aspects of a proposed building scheme at the same time.

I am more than inclined to think that there exists a feeling amongst those officials of the L.C.C. who are most concerned with town planning, that the Town Planning Act must go, and that what remains of it,

which is not covered by the Building Acts, must be incorporated therein.

As an old adherent of town planning, I cannot help feeling that this is a mistake, and is due very largely to a misunderstanding on the part of those responsible for the administration of the Building Acts as to the real possibilities of planning legislation. Town Planning was never intended to invade the precincts of Bye-law administration though Town Planning legislation might make it necessary partially to suspend Bye-laws. Originally, when first made the subject of an Act of Parliament, it was meant to over-ride the old universal Bye-law administration and make over-riding regulations peculiarly suited to different districts, and the Act of 1909, and later Acts, provide for the suspension of the Bye-laws, their place to be taken by the Regulations of the Scheme, which it was contemplated would vary with the different Authorities and in differing localities. But this intrusion into the realms of Bye-law administration was regarded as a minor matter, only made necessary in order to adjust administration. Town Planning was meant to deal with much bigger things.

The position in the London County Council area is that we have in operation the different sections of the Building Acts, and also the at present unregulated powers of the Town and Country Planning Act, cutting across one another. The consequence is that in London at the moment the situation is curious: we still must comply with the Building Act, and at the same time submit to the vagaries of a Planning Authority, who, not having prepared planning regulations, is exercising the powers of the Act in a purely arbitrary way.

The model sets of Bye-laws—Urban, Rural and Intermediary—issued by the Minister of Health do not determine the heights of buildings, and in several of the larger towns in England, the control is exercised by private Acts.

In the London area, the Building Act of 1930 provides that without special consent no building (other than a Church or Chapel) may be erected to a greater height than 80 feet, exclusive of two storeys in the roof or ornamental towers, or such-like features. There are other conditions as to angles of light, which are exceedingly complicated; also streets formed since 1862 of less than 50 feet in width must not exceed the width in height; and as a further controlling factor, there is the question of the rights of light of the private individual which in the case of ancient lights must be respected unless agreement is reached between the parties affected.

Now it is quite easy to see that the control of heights of buildings provided for under the Town Planning Act must strengthen, impair, or in some way clash, with the provisions of the Building Acts.

In administering the Planning Act, the London County Council have power to control the heights of

buildings in any way they please, subject to appeal to the Minister who has to decide whether he thinks that the Act is being reasonably administered.

As a result of obtaining these new powers, the Town Planning Committee of the London County Council have now drafted entirely new sets of regulations for controlling the heights of buildings in London. The Town Planning and Building Regulations Committee of the L.C.C. have proposed to divide London into three height zones. In each zone there shall be a maximum height for single family dwelling-houses, for other residential buildings, and for commercial and industrial buildings. Zone 1 in which the highest buildings would be permitted, would include the central business areas and most of those areas in which the use is for basic industry. Zone 2 would cover the areas largely residential in character, in which it might be expected that multiple dwellings would preponderate, together with the fringes of the principal traffic routes, either commercial in character or unsuited to single-family dwelling-houses. Zone 3 would include those areas where single family dwelling-house development would be likely to continue and predominate, and where permission for the erection of multiple dwellings would be the subject of consideration on the merits of the particular case. Height was also to be controlled in relation to width of street.

For the purpose of calculating the width of street, the scheme will define the line from which the measurement is to be taken and the following recommendations are made:—

	Ratio of height to Zone distance from opposite side of street	Maximum overall height		
		Single-family dwelling-house	Other residential buildings	Commercial and Industrial buildings
1	1½ : 1	60	80	100
2	1¼ : 1	40	60	80
3	1 : 1	40	40	60

Subject to:—

(a) (i) No building having a sheer height exceeding 80 ft.;

(ii) dormers, chimneys, and similar architectural features being allowed beyond these limits;

(iii) where a building abuts on streets of different widths, the heights permissible on the wider street being allowed along the narrower street for a distance of 40 ft. from the point of junction;

(iv) the Council reserving the right to permit heights in excess of these standards where it is satisfied that the circumstances justify an increase.

(b) The foregoing standards being applied to residential and office buildings:—

(i) Where lit from internal courts: as if the distance across the court were a street width;

(ii) where lit from side or rear, as if the boundary of a site was the centre of a street; with special concessions being made for light wells in appropriate cases.

(c) Special provisions being made for areas in the vicinity of ancient monuments or particular buildings of historic or artistic importance which might be injuriously affected by applying the standard of the zone in which they lie, and for applications affecting properties in those areas to be considered on their merits.

But these Regulations have not, as yet, been confirmed by the Council, and are still a subject for discussion as regards their general application.

The wider issues involved are those concerned with :—

- 1.—Light.
- 2.—Air.
- 3.—Population density affecting transport.
- 4.—Appearance.

Provided there is a sufficiency of light and air, and the buildings in London are not inordinately high, the third factor, that of density affecting transport, is not of vital importance, as for instance, in New York, where buildings attain the height of 50 or more storeys, but perhaps too little importance is attached to appearance as it is affected by height. An interesting appearance does not necessarily mean a sufficiency of light and air. The narrow streets of any old town are extremely interesting, but are not necessarily healthy. Directly a street is as wide as it is high—a requirement in a residential area when a sufficiency of light is demanded—the street takes on an uninteresting proportion, when a street is one and a half times wider than it is high—as an example Regent Street before its re-building—then it again attains interest, but of another kind. Unfortunately, the cases are rare where streets may be one and a half times as wide as the buildings are high, and it is only in old commercial streets that the height may be greater than the width.

Zoning for "User" in the case of the old built-up area of a town is very different from zoning for use in an undeveloped area. Except in the case of purely residential, or purely commercial areas, which, in an old city like London, occupy but a very small proportion of the whole area, the use that buildings are put to is very mixed. Take areas like Marylebone, St. Pancras, or Lambeth, almost everywhere we find shops, houses, and small factories, indiscriminately mixed. If we zone for houses, business and commercial buildings, and industrial buildings—the common practice—our areas to be at all practical must present the picture of a coat of many colours in very small patches, and if during the interim period the wrong use be perpetuated, as has already been explained will be the case, zoning for use is seen to be a very far-fetched ideal, in fact a fallacy. It does not seem to me that in an old built-up area we can expect to achieve anything more than a general tendency in the case of "User," and this by a gradual

weeding out of objectionable users, though to be effective, this will take generations.

Another aspect of zoning for user in an old built-up area when compared with zoning in an undeveloped area is, that zoned areas take on different shapes from those with which we have been made familiar in the zoning maps of undeveloped land. Not that our proposals in regard to undeveloped areas are right—far from it. We learn from the investigation of built-up areas that normal development tends to zone in strips as much as in patches. Business and commercial areas run along streets in stripes. Houses, and occasionally factories, come in patches. If we bear this in mind we shall have more consistent planning, and shall find that to follow the tendency of normal—and if you like disorganised planning—is a more natural, if not correct, course. It is usually the exceptional unit that is wrong.

As regards new streets and widenings, we must remember that the introduction of motor traffic has brought with it conditions far more revolutionary than can be imagined. It is my opinion that whilst many new streets cut through solidly built-up areas, and the widening of existing streets is necessary, however drastic and costly this may be, the solution of the problem will not be attained in this way—the difficulty will merely be relieved. We need new streets and widenings, but also, and much more important, we need severe pruning of the traffic. Objectionable as it may seem to some of us, we shall have to face up to restricted areas—areas where only public and private vehicles prepared to pay a heavy toll will be allowed.

Order produced by the artificial use of streets to one-way traffic, the creation of roundabouts, and the setting up of signals, can do much, but all the signals in the world cannot keep going the vast amount of traffic that passes, and would like to pass, through the central area.

To-day as I write this paper, I have myself crossed the busy areas of London in several directions. Piccadilly to Cambridge Circus was a continuous block, and so was Whitehall from the Horse Guards to Trafalgar Square. On any fine Saturday afternoon the exits from London are just a slow moving block. Every kind of side route has been discovered by taxi drivers and those familiar with the numerous possible routes; and yet one is continually blocked. Private owners, like myself, must be banished from the central area, and we must take to the empty buses and the tubes. That, and the setting up of a traffic barrier all round London, requiring a bigger tax to ride inside, is, I believe, the solution of the traffic problem in the central area.

There has always existed considerable doubt as to whether proposals shown on a town planning scheme will lead to speculation and high prices, but experience

has shown that with exception this has not been so; however, the planning of a built-up area and the indication on a map of buildings which must necessarily be pulled down is certainly some temptation to the speculator, and I think that when important new streets are constructed, cutting through old areas, that these will have to be the subject of private legislation. To cut a street anywhere through London is an enormous undertaking, and would well justify the bringing into operation of a special Act.

I have now touched upon the question of height of buildings, the question of user, and the question of traffic, and I think I have shown that the imposition of the Town and Country Planning Act on central London is no mean undertaking. I have hinted at the necessity for fully realising the individual interests of owners, and whilst it is essential that the aim of planning is to obtain order and system where there exists chaos and confusion, a close examination of what already exists as depicted on an ordnance sheet, shows us that this apparent confusion is largely superficial, and that there always exists the kind of organisation which we may term growth. To preserve vitality it is usually safer to prune and nurture natural growth than to attempt to replace it with something exotic. There never was a time when a better opportunity occurred for carrying out composite schemes than to-day. The London County Council, as town planning authority, talks of pulling down a square mile of worn-out residential property, and given time to carry out such an undertaking, vast clearances will undoubtedly be made. I am of opinion that the Government visualises the construction of one or more important new streets, and some important widenings, and provided that during the next few years there is European peace, some important new streets will be constructed.

In this replanning, the trouble is not that we are lacking in magnitude of effort, but that we are a little too hasty, and too much inclined to accept the principle of "first come first served." We are inclined to snap at anything that comes first to hand, and to miss the opportunity of carrying out something that will be really great. Rome was not built in a day, and London cannot be re-built in a year. We are too much in the hands of political parties. Town planning is too much at the mercy of party politicians. We must learn to think bigger, and to act slower: this is essential to the making of a real plan. It is the making of this real plan that town planning was intended to legislate for: as it is, town planning is rapidly descending into a position more correctly occupied by a series of super-sanitary bye-laws.

I have already mentioned that town planning, as originally promoted by the Act of 1909, was intended to deal with general development, and I cannot over-emphasise the fatal results of applying what should be its fine principles to the detection of little discrepancies and irregularities in sanitary administration.

I am aware that the question of a boundary to the planning area of London is very controversial. I am absolutely certain that the boundaries of the London County Council are too confined, and even with surrounding schemes working in close co-operation with the scheme for the central area and under the most favourable conditions, I doubt whether such a division of effort can achieve the best results.

I make bold to state that the preparation of a London plan is unlike the preparation of any other plan—that if it is to be prepared by a central authority in conjunction with numerous external authorities, and administered separately, nothing but some over-riding authority set up to adjust differences of outlook and, in particular, questions of finance, can achieve a satisfactory result.

The London County Council passed its resolution to plan London, without having either a plan or sets of provisional regulations for dealing with the difficulties that would arise in the interim period. This is nothing new—other authorities have done likewise, and the argument in favour of doing so is that control is obtained: but take the question of the heights of buildings—it may be advanced that there is some advantage in being able to control the height of buildings to an extent not permitted by the building regulations. I say "Yes," provided the jurisdiction confines itself to a few cases where the verdict is indisputable, but where haphazard decisions must be given based on no consistent principle, mistakes and confusion are bound to arise. Take the case of "user": with zoning for use just based on apparent haphazard requirements without having any zoning system, or without having formulated the principles which should control zoning, innumerable questions involved in approving interim applications must be very difficult to decide and the decisions uncertain, if not mistaken: and this leads me to the last part of my lecture, which I shall discuss under the head of "Administration."

I have already made it quite clear that a defect in the administration of town planning is the attempt to over-emphasise the importance of detail, and the lack of statesmanship in the conception of a big idea. The former is largely due to a too meticulous reverence for the Model Clauses which, applied without intelligence and without modification, interfere seriously with bye-law administration, and if this is a defect in the normal planning scheme, it is much more a defect when superimposed upon the London Building Acts.

At the present moment we have the Building Acts which deal with the height of buildings, and up to a point with the space in the rear of buildings. They also deal with building lines, and in certain cases angles of light, but there is practically no control of user, and we rely upon our good sense and agreements between owners. The Planning Act gives us greater and more consistent control of heights: it gives us control over the space about buildings; and it gives us power to

control the use of buildings, their appearance, and the materials of which they are constructed.

Applied to a new building erected in the midst of a group of old ones, the result may be something very inharmonious, and with a height system only partially conceived, without any principle for controlling the space about buildings other than the principles that have been evolved to deal with undeveloped land, and without a tribunal of appeal to which reference can be made in questions of dispute as to appearance, it is only to be expected that something very unreasonable may result. It must be quite clear to anyone that the present administration of town planning in London is in a hopeless condition. The solution to my mind lies in temporarily relaxing the powers of the Act, and in concentrating every effort in devising a scheme. The delay and inconvenience that is being caused at the present moment, in the preparatory stages of building is enormous: the pecuniary loss immense.

Previous to the administration of town planning, the building owner gave notice to the district surveyor, and usually submitted a plan, sanitary questions were decided by the Sanitary Inspector, and building proceeded without let or hindrance. To-day all plans, even if they consist of nothing more than the addition of a dormer window or the internal division of a house into two parts, must be submitted to the London County Council for town planning approval. This may take two months, and if there is an objection, may take four. I leave you to imagine the chaotic condition into which building operations within the London County Council area, have been thrown. But my criticism of these operations is not directed entirely to the town planning committee of the London County Council, nor least of all is it directed to their hard-working officials; it is directed essentially to the promoters of the Act who have enlarged the sphere of town planning to include the planning of built-up areas without at the same time fully investigating existing powers. To my mind it would have been much better to have drafted a short Bill dealing with the planning of built-up areas on lines entirely different from the Act which provides for the development of undeveloped land. The town planning of a built-up area ought quite rightly to contain powers to control height, density, use and appearance, but in its application there should have been greater opportunities for the exercise of individual freedom: more importance should have been directed to the kind of tribunal to be set up to deal with exceptional cases, than with powers for prevention. It should have been realised that an old town is not a new town, and that you can never expect to obtain consistency of effort in an old town such as can easily be obtained in an entirely new town: and that the beauty and interest of an old town depends as much, if not more, upon the quality of individual buildings than upon consistency and composition.

The provisions in the London Building Acts which permit certain buildings to exceed the height normally allowed by regulation, and also to depart from the regulations controlling forms of construction, is one which it is absolutely necessary in the planning of a built-up area if there is to be any interest in individual building. In a built-up area there are so many entirely different propositions, and so many important buildings to be dealt with, that the principle of reserving powers to deal specially with single buildings is of the very greatest importance.

I have left the most controversial questions until the last. I have as yet not touched upon the ever-raging controversy—multiple dwelling or single-family house.

I suppose there will always be controversial questions, and I suppose that town planning authorities will find more difficulty in settling differences arising out of social questions than in settling any others.

I cannot help feeling that the question of flat or house, ought not to worry anyone in a built-up area where mixed buildings have long been permitted.

I think that there are certain groups of single-family houses which ought not to be broken into and split up by the erection of multiple dwellings. I don't like big blocks of flats rearing their heads above the roofs of houses in old Hampstead village. On the whole, we are making far too much fuss about whether a multiple dwelling, or a block of flats should be allowed. We should be much wiser if we were more particular about the shape and appearance of such buildings. Town Planning authorities are inclined to pay far too much attention to questions relating to the number per acre, the type of residence and its height; if these conform to regulation, any old thing does as regards shape, materials and elevation.

To sum up, I would say to the London County Council, don't trouble so much about questions arising out of town planning detail: except where the site has a distinctly composite character, permission to allow the individual to carry out anything that will have a good influence, is better than making him conform to regulations that don't fit any particular case.

Town Planning applied to a built-up area like London, should concentrate its very special powers on the formation of big things—to the re-construction of large areas of worn-out property, to the re-distribution of the population, to the protection and nursing of areas of peculiar interest, to the prevention of accidental interference with well-composed groups: or, to turn from the abstract statement to the concrete fact—to the conversion of large areas in the overcrowded and worn-out parts of the East End into parks dotted all over with magnificent tenement dwellings and spaces for recreation—to the co-ordination of these, with satellite towns—to the preservation of old Hampstead from any encroachment by tall and ugly flats—to the prevention of monstrosities, abuses, vulgarities, and the

erection of buildings, and groups of buildings which are just exhibitions of ignorance or conceit.

Finally, let me say that in my opinion we have become just throttled with a network of building regulations—that we have not the enlightenment to administer—that we are gradually discovering that the planning of a built-up area is a vastly different problem from the

planning of undeveloped land—that our ideas on control, questions relating to space about buildings, height, and user, are based too much on the methods that have been invented for controlling these things in reference to building on undeveloped land—that we want a new Act for built-up areas; or that we should administer the present Act in a much more liberal way.

The One Hundred and Second Annual General Meeting

HELD AT THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS ON MONDAY,
11 MAY 1936, AT 8 P.M.

THE PRESIDENT (MR. PERCY E. THOMAS, O.B.E. [F.]) IN THE CHAIR.

THE ANNUAL REPORT

The PRESIDENT: I now have to present the Report of the Council and Standing Committees for the official year 1935-36 and to move its adoption by this Annual General Meeting.

The Chairmen or other representatives of all the Committees whose reports are appended to the Council's report have been asked to attend this meeting so as to be in a position to answer any questions that may be asked in connection with these reports.

Mr. HENRY M. FLETCHER (Hon. Secretary): I have pleasure in seconding that motion.

Mr. GILBERT H. JENKINS [F.]: It is fitting that someone outside the Council and the Committees should attempt to review and criticise the working of the Institute on these occasions. This is a peculiarly laborious and thankless task, involving the careful perusal and analysis of the Annual Report and other research. I shall therefore be grateful if those who attend on behalf of the Council will appreciate that any criticisms made by me in reviewing their work are not due to lack of appreciation of the sustained and successful work so well performed by the Council and Committees, but because I believe that it is to the good of architecture and architects that each year's work should be reviewed and constructively criticised by members outside the ruling body.

Every year the field of activity seems to widen, and the time has come when an index to the Report would be of assistance.

The drop in the percentage of senior members who become Fellows continues, as those elected during the year were only one-fourth of the number of Associates. That means that the Fellowship has dropped to about one-third of the total of Fellows and Associates, and that is a tendency which undoubtedly will affect the finances of the Institute in future years, if it continues.

The Council is to be congratulated on its efforts to extend the practice of awarding medals for fine buildings to six of the districts covered by our Allied Societies. It is to be hoped that this practice will eventually be extended to all of them. I feel sure the Publicity Committee would welcome such an extension.

The Building Industries National Council is evidently performing great services for both architects and builders. An article in our journal on its activities with an annual review founded on the monthly surveys, would be useful to architects who have not the time to peruse the National Council's publications, while such special work as the "Code of Practice for Lifts and Escalators Installation" would advantageously form part of the admirable Building Research reports which members already receive.

The Board of Architectural Education continues the good work in its ever-widening field.

Members generally will desire to join with the Council in thanking Sir Banister Fletcher for his gift of an annual medal and prize of 25 guineas to encourage the study of Ancient, Mediæval, and Renaissance Architecture.

The usual detailed tables giving statistics of the number of students in the Schools and of those who present themselves for examination or special exemption are published—the tables for Intermediate and Final Examinations could be modified with advantage by dividing the United Kingdom and giving separate figures for England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. I mention this, as the School Examinations are given in complete detail. (These also could be classified into these four groups, and the rest of the Empire as a fifth group.) It would then be possible to compare the percentage of passes for all classes of student.

Analysis shows that while 97 per cent. and 98 per cent. respectively of the Scotch School Students passed their

Intermediate and Final Examinations, in England the proportions are only 71 per cent. and 84 per cent. It may be a coincidence, but the report shows that Scotch students took all three major prizes in the Studentship awards, and of the others, three Welsh students, as against seven English students, were successful. As the Scotch students number fewer than 300, and the Welsh 40, compared with more than 1,000 in English schools, one is compelled to wonder whether something is wrong with the English schools.

It is to be noted that the training in Scotland is tending towards a combination of school tuition with service in an office, and it is possible that the pendulum has swung too far in England towards an academic training, and that the balance could be restored by combination of the old system of office training with the new systems of school training, running both concurrently, as in Scotland.

The five tables showing the attendances of members of the Board at various meetings could be condensed with additional clarity into one five-columned table, with an extra column showing total.

Art Standing Committee.

Heartiest congratulations to the Committee on its greatly widened sphere of activities.

The improvement in the appearance of our streets and roads is a most useful piece of work, which might be extended to the lay-out, not only of the streets, but the building plots provided on each side. The plans before Parliament for the new Great Western Exit road between Cromwell Road and Chiswick Bridge cries aloud for the attention of the Committee, as, with the plots shown, it will be impossible to make it a fine street.

Some explanation is desirable with regard to the work on building materials and the request to the Building Centre to put the Committee in touch "with manufacturers who raise queries on materials." A sub-committee could do useful work on opposite lines, *viz.*, to point out to manufacturers where their products fail to be artistic, and how these failures may be avoided. They have apparently dealt with brickwork lately, and there are many cases, as we know, in which manufacturers turn out perfectly horrible bricks. It is for the architect to explain to them why the bricks are so bad in appearance, and how their appearance could be improved. That particularly applies to the bricks in North Wales and the Somersetshire district.

The Exhibitions Sub-Committee has done splendid work, which has resulted in a great deal of useful publicity for architecture and the Institute. A wise policy has been laid down by this Committee, and approved by the Council, with the result that the standard of our exhibitions has been raised, and their appeal to the general public greatly widened.

As many of our best known members are still carrying on our own English tradition, simplified to suit the

modest post-war purse, it is to be hoped that the work of these architects will be more fully represented in the photographic collection than it was in the Centenary Exhibition.

Some of these architects should be co-opted on the Committee, which should pass dispassionate judgment on all good work being done, whether it be modernistic or in the living English tradition of our day.

The Practice Standing Committee continues to carry on work which is of assistance to the whole profession. The committee in its report covers a wide variety of subjects, the premier place being given to the 1931 Contract. There appears to have been many enquiries about it, and it would be of general interest to the members if the Chairman explained some of the knotty points raised and their solutions, or if a more detailed report on these were published in the JOURNAL.

Commissions on Mortgage Business.

Doubtless, members will desire to hear why architects should be debarred from receiving the fees customarily payable for finding money to finance building schemes. A large percentage of the buildings, now being erected in London and the suburbs to the designs of architects, are speculative schemes, and it is difficult to understand why the architect alone among the men of several professions who have to find money for their clients, should be unable to charge the recognised standard fee for such services.

The member who received this ruling from the Practice Committee would seem to have been unfortunate. Surely, a question of this kind should not be decided except by the Council, after consulting the general body of members, and the Allied Societies. Would a member who accepted such a commission, with the knowledge and consent of his client, commit a breach of the Code of Professional Conduct? If so, I fear there are many members guilty of such a breach. In view of the fact that the speculator often wishes to make deferred payments of fees on the lower scale, surely the architect should be given the chance of earning other legitimate charges in connection with such work.

Preparation of Specification.

The note on the practice of the quantity surveyor preparing the specification, instead of the architect, published by the Committee, is not happily worded. The practice has arisen owing to the fact that while both specification and quantities form part of the contract, the quantities override both drawings and specification in determining the exact extent of the contract works.

The architect should do much more than—to quote the Practice Committee's note—"supplying the necessary heads" for the specification. The architect, really interested in his building, will wish to instruct the quantity surveyor upon every detail of his design, settle all materials, see every sub-contractor, and obtain their

estimates (this last item relieving the surveyor of a good deal of work), and generally control the whole of the items which are to be measured, abstracted and billed by the quantity surveyor. Having done that, he is consulting his client's interests in leaving the fair copy specification to be written by the surveyor, as this should be an exact reflection of the bills of quantity, with the quantities left out.

The only architects against whom the surveyor has a real grievance are those who cut his fees and/or give him only a set of $\frac{1}{8}$ in. scale plans with the scantiest of descriptive notes, from which to prepare both quantities and specification.

Bills of Quantities for Public Buildings.

If the Practice Committee desires to help the lesser known quantity surveyor, it might persuade our Council to join with that of the Chartered Surveyors, in representing to the various Government Departments and the County and Local Authorities that it is not in the public interest to engage a surveyor who has agreed to be paid only $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., 1 per cent., or less, for the quantities, often sweating the job still further by refusing to pay anything at all on provisional sums. This is a scandal that urgently needs redress, as quantities, prepared for these rates of pay, must inevitably be slipshod, and result in a great deal more than $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. or 1 per cent. being lost by the authority on too full measurements and slipshod descriptions alone. One has only to look at the tendering of the lowest six builders, on quantities prepared by surveyors who are really first-class, and those for many public buildings, to see what close measurement and full description can achieve, against the other type of quantities. In one case, the tenders will vary by less than 5 per cent., and in the other the variation will be $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to 15 per cent. or more. There is another objection, even more serious; owing to the loose descriptions of these cheap-jack quantities, the doubtful type of builder has the chance of evading his responsibilities, and doing the indifferent class of work which should never have the opportunity of finding its way into any public building. These clients also suffer further substantial losses on the measurement of variations and subsequently on the extra cost of upkeep.

The Practice Committee would perform a great public service by assisting to convince public authorities of this gross error.

Incidentally it will help the architect also, both directly and indirectly. The Committee state that provincial authorities are commencing to ask architects to enter a Dutch auction on fees for hospital work. Doubtless, these authorities are accustomed to get their surveyors to do their work for less than half the standard fees, and therefore see no reason why architects should not be similarly treated. By helping the surveyors to stop this vicious practice we help ourselves.

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Architects and Hospital Work.

In passing, it would be interesting to know whether the Committee suggested to the Central Bureau of Hospital Information that an open competition was considered by the Institute to be the best means of obtaining a first-class design in all important new hospitals.

The report almost suggests there is a closed ring of hospital designers, but competitions in recent years have proved the contrary, as several architects—well known for their designs in other fields—have shown themselves able to beat all the specialist hospital firms, given a fair field with no favour.

Fees of Specialists and Consultants.

It is regrettable that the Council under its new by-laws can alter the scale of charges without previous discussion by a general meeting of the members. The Practice Committee—the watch-dog of the Institute in these matters—has handicapped all architects, who try to do their best for their clients, by publishing that the architect who employs a consultant shall receive 1 per cent. less than his standard fee. Taking steelwork alone, the client whose architect calls in a civil engineer for a steel-framed building, gets a far better job, and actually pays less for the steelwork than if the architect had called in one of the structural steel firms to give a tender on their own designs, inserting this as a provisional sum in the quantities. Competitive tendering by five or six firms on detailed quantities—plus the consultant's fee—will result in a saving on the other method.

The Committee and Council have only hit the more responsible class of architect by this decision. Those with little sense of responsibility to their clients will always go to the steel firms, as it saves them office work. First-class building is definitely handicapped by this decision, and this is not to the public good.

Legal Advice for Members.

I would like to congratulate the Committee on its work in securing sound advice for any architect who finds himself confronted with a legal dilemma, as it is always difficult for any layman to know whether the advice he seeks will be expert or not.

The *Science Standing Committee* continues its useful work, and one has only to read the list of men appointed on the many committees to realise the absurdity of the canard that the Institute is run by a small clique.

Referring to the revision of the Ordnance Maps, it would be interesting to hear fuller details of the Ordnance Survey Department's proposals. No reference to the subject is contained in the Town Planning Committee's report, so presumably this Committee was not consulted, although Town Planners, more than anyone else, are gravely handicapped by the lack of up-to-date maps.

Congratulations to our newest Committee—the *Junior Members' Committee*—which has made so fine a start.

It might appoint a sub-committee to review the annual report, so that this meeting may more fully serve the purpose for which it is called. It is also just the body to assist the Social Committee—another new committee ably serving our interests—in founding the proposed Camera Club. May I suggest that it be called the Camera and Sketching Club—the name of the defunct A.A. Club of which many of us were members. The work of this club provided the nucleus of the magnificent collection of lantern slides possessed by the A.A.

The Public Relations Committee has done such excellent work that one wonders how we managed for a century without its services.

The lecturing field might be widened with advantage to include the adult layman both in London and in the provinces. The juniors seem extremely well served by lectures, but there appears to be no organisation to give lectures to adults.

This brings me to the report of the last Committee—that on Town Planning and Housing. When the first Town Planning Conference was held, the Institute took the leading part in it, and it is regrettable that, since then, architects have taken less and less interest in the subject, or, at any rate, the Institute officially has, with the result that the work is becoming a mere matter of surveying and engineering, and is more and more lacking in imaginative design.

It is incredible that we have a committee with a list of members containing the names of all the greatest English Town Planners, and yet the Institute has allowed such a scheme as the new Western Exit from London to be placed before Parliament without officially publishing a protest. If the Bill goes through as planned by its promoters, a great street which should be one of the finest of London's new traffic avenues, will be a discredit to all Town Planners.

In London a fine street is impossible without fine architecture, but the plots scheduled to be acquired on each side of this new great avenue are so ill-planned and shallow that there is no room for fine buildings. Apart from this loss of a great opportunity to improve this part of London, the result will be that irresponsible speculators will control the re-building schemes, and at least half a million of public money will have been thrown away.

Town Planning is badly in need of the architect or landscape architect—in other words, the designer who has been trained to take all the factors into account, and to produce a scheme, which, while solving the problems of traffic, zoning, and economics, will add to

the amenities of the districts concerned, and increase the beauties of our great city. There is a great scarcity of competent designers, and many young architects could find posts as town planners, provided our Institute resumes its proper role as leader in Town Planning.

Major Barnes—whose premature death is so great a loss to the Institute, and the Registration Council—commented at the last annual meeting on the delay in producing the Committee's Slum Clearance Report. Doubtless after two years' work upon it, the report will be the most authoritative of its kind ever published. Such a report should become a standard work of reference, and thereby raise the prestige of our Institute, but if delayed much further it will be of much less service to authorities who need guidance in re-developing the slum areas.

Nothing is said about the report on "the more important architectural and technical principles which should be embodied in town planning proposals for London and its surroundings," which the Committee resolved in 1934 to prepare. Why has this been dropped just at the moment when it was most urgently needed?

Our thanks are due to the *Finance Committee*, which continues to see that our Institute is kept in a flourishing condition. It is to be hoped our Conduit Street property will soon sell, when we shall doubtless have a full account of the cost of our new premises.

In conclusion, I would like to voice the thanks of all members interested in our Institute and its work on what the report shows to be a record year of activity in the interests of the public as well as of the profession. We are indebted to all those members of the Council and its innumerable Committees who have so unselfishly given of their best on our behalf, and, not least, to our hard-working, courteous and most efficient staff under the wise guidance of our old friend, Sir Ian MacAlister.

Everyone must be delighted with the fine portrait we now possess of him painted by Mr. Harold Knight, R.A. It is pleasing to remember that the contributors to it were so numerous that it resulted in a replica being given to Lady MacAlister.

I have pleasure in supporting the motion to receive and approve the Report.

At the conclusion of Mr. Jenkins' remarks, the President invited further discussion. Since no members rose, the President moved that the Report should be put to the meeting, and it was accepted and passed unanimously.



The Building Work of Local Authorities

Deputation to the Minister of Health

On Thursday, 7 May, Sir Kingsley Wood, the Minister of Health, received a deputation organised by the R.I.B.A., on the employment of architects on public building works. The deputation was introduced by the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, K.T., and there were present :—

The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, K.T., P.C., Hon. F.R.I.B.A.

The Rt. Hon. Viscount Esher, M.B.E., Hon. A.R.I.B.A.

Mr. Percy Thomas, O.B.E., President, R.I.B.A.

Mr. R. D. Acland, M.P.

Mr. W. H. Ansell, M.C., F.R.I.B.A., Past Chairman of the Board of Architectural Education.

Mr. A. C. Bossom, M.P., F.R.I.B.A.

Mr. John Dower, M.A., A.R.I.B.A.

Sir Percy Hurd, M.P.

Mr. John Laing, Builder.

Lt.-Col. T. C. R. Moore, C.B.E., M.P., Hon. A.R.I.B.A.

Mr. A. L. Roberts, F.R.I.B.A., County Architect of Hampshire.

Mr. R. L. Roberts, M.A., Past President of the Institute of Builders.

Mr. J. Alan Slater, M.A., F.R.I.B.A., Chairman of the R.I.B.A. Public Relations Committee.

Sir Raymond Unwin, Past President R.I.B.A., Past President of the Building Industries National Council.

Sir Jonah Walker-Smith, M.P., Hon. A.R.I.B.A.

Mr. C. D. Spragg, Assistant Secretary R.I.B.A.

Mr. E. L. Bird, A.R.I.B.A., Secretary R.I.B.A. Public Relations Committee.

The object of the deputation was to request the Minister to bring his influence to bear on local authorities in order to ensure that the large and increasing amount of housing and other building work undertaken by local authorities should, in future, be designed and supervised by fully qualified registered architects. The deputation also brought to the notice of the Minister other matters, allied to the principal point of the meeting, such as the voluntary service given by architects through the panel system and the undertaking of private architectural work by full-time salaried officials of local authorities who, as officials, were responsible for the administration of bye-laws. Copies of relevant documents setting out these matters had been sent to the Minister beforehand.

It was indicated to the Minister, both in the documents sent beforehand and in the speeches delivered by members of the deputation, that the ultimate aim of the Royal Institute was to secure for qualified architects the same legal status as is accorded to the members of other registered professions, such as legal and medical, in the local government of this country.

After the deputation had been introduced by Lord Crawford, the President said that Sir Raymond Unwin and Mr. John Dower would speak on behalf of the R.I.B.A. and that the builders' point of view would be put by Mr. R. L. Roberts.

Sir Raymond Unwin, before coming to the principal matter of his speech, said that Mr. George Hicks, M.P., and Mr. Thomas Barron, the President of the National Federation of Building Trades Operatives, had been invited to join the deputation but had both been unable to do so. They had, however, both written warmly supporting the proposals.

Continuing, Sir Raymond said that the purpose of the deputation was to emphasise the need for the regular and responsible employment of qualified architects on all public building and development works of such a nature that planning and appearance were of importance. It was recognised that a similar obligation should rest upon like works when carried out by private enterprise; and they looked forward to the time when such an obligation would be generally expected, and, if need be, required in the public interest.

The R.I.B.A. had recognised that advance must be by stages: indeed, the architectural profession, through their representative bodies, had given an enormous amount of time and energy to the gradual solution of this problem. Indeed, for many years, the Institute had not supported the registration of architects until it had been satisfied that there had been established an adequate system of training for those entering the profession, and of testing by examination those who should seek to practise it. There had now been a very great advance in this direction. Statutory registration of architects had been secured, and entry to the register had been protected by suitable tests of examination and experience. Moreover, as regards work carried out by private enterprise, architects in many parts of the country had given voluntary service to organise the Panel System to assist local authorities in protecting the amenities and restraining bad or aggressively eccentric building.

The Royal Institute now felt that the time was ripe to secure what they had called the statutory recognition of architects, in the sense that the Government, the local authorities and other public bodies associated with them, should set an example to the public by recognising the obligation to employ qualified architects for all building and development works of which the planning and appearance must be of importance to the public. How far it might be desirable in the future to make such employment a statutory obligation, they

did not propose at the moment to discuss. At present, they were seeking to go as far as possible by persuasion and example.

They believed that a considerable advance could be achieved by administrative action and public pressure, and their present purpose was to ask the Minister to back such efforts. They had ample grounds to assume his goodwill in the matter and wished to stress the great power which he possessed to influence local authorities in the right direction. They wanted to make clear that they were putting forward no suggestion that architects should displace engineers, surveyors or other men qualified for different branches of work when employed in their proper spheres; on the contrary, they recognised that in much of the work on which architects might claim to be employed, the assistance and co-operation of engineers, surveyors and members of other professions was essential. They would, however, stress the fact that the architect was specially trained in design and planning.

In the work to which they were referring there was no conflict between use or efficiency and good appearance; just as in any written statement, there was no conflict between accuracy of fact or soundness of sense and clearness of charm, in the form of expression. The designer, or planner, saw both ends together, but sought to provide for useful purposes in a form which would be orderly, pleasing, or beautiful; all were inextricably bound together.

There was in this country a great variety of local conditions, local building materials, and local treasures of ancient buildings erected according to them. This was a national possession, which neither individuals nor local authorities had any right needlessly to destroy. It could only be guarded by the employment of those who had given years of study to the problems of planning and design, which included the satisfying of all practical requirements in a manner that harmonised with the surroundings. They appealed to the Minister to use all the influence at his disposal to secure this end.

Mr. John Dower said that the employment of architects on all public building works was necessary on the broadest ground of public policy, in order to secure that combination of the best possible planning, the most economical construction and the greatest beauty which went by the ugly but useful name of "amenity." They had particularly in mind the vast prospective volume of house building by local authorities under the campaigns for slum clearance and abatement of overcrowding. The very success of these campaigns, on which the Government and the Minister were to be warmly congratulated, increased the urgent need to remedy the grave national lack of design in constructional and reconstructional efforts. It was not the purpose of the deputation to make representations on the broad problems of housing or of town and country planning; but they were concerned with stressing

the vital importance of these activities in the future national well-being, and with pointing out the potential value of expert architectural advice in every aspect of the work involved. The Government had rightly insisted that in most cases housing needs could not be satisfactorily met by piecemeal action; widely conceived development or redevelopment schemes for large areas were required. It was essential that town planning should be treated in an equally positive way. Each town and district would require its own individual improvement schemes to solve its own individual problems, and fit its own individual geography; the best architectural advice that could be obtained was needed in every case.

As a practising architect he had some reluctance in asking for more work for his profession. But the profession had more than earned it by the leading part that architects had played in all advances in designing and building technique, and by the large amount of voluntary service given in this and other ways, notably on such as the Panel System and the Ministry of Health Flats Design Committee. It was scarcely fair that the profession should be used for the experimental examples, but not for the subsequent main mass of work. Moreover, every building scheme needed the architect's individual attention; reliance on standardized models adapted by unqualified persons was not satisfactory. The profession could not stand back on a point of etiquette and watch the rebuilding of Britain spoilt for lack of competent design.

While they did not ask now for full "statutory recognition," they did ask that the Minister should bear it in mind for future legislative action. It was the order of the day in other professions—doctors, dentists, lawyers, etc. The architectural profession had prepared the way for such statutory recognition by the Architects' Registration Act.

Meantime, the Minister had substantial powers of control over all building works carried out by local authorities, more especially those which were subsidised, or which required loan sanctions, or which had to satisfy special technical standards, for instance, hospitals. Their immediate request was that such central control should be so exercised as to persuade local authorities to employ qualified architects with full responsibility on all such works. The Minister was responsible for seeing that proper standards were maintained. It was clearly unworkable that he should, through his technical officers, be expected to turn a flood of bad plans into good plans. The best method of ensuring that plans were already sound when submitted to the Ministry was to provide as far as possible that they were prepared by qualified architects.

It was recognised that there was a widespread lack of appreciation of the need for and of the value of architects' services among local authorities and the general public. The Royal Institute of British Architects

was embarked on a vigorous long-term policy of education to overcome this lack, and asked the Minister for his assistance, both generally by the issue of circulars, etc., and individually by appropriate representations.

Mr. R. L. Roberts, speaking from the point of view of a builder, who, from time to time undertook public building work, said that the person responsible for the design was a matter of importance to the builder. In many technical schools architects and builders were trained together on parallel lines, and in everyday practice they were accustomed to working together; there was no such close contact with unqualified persons. The industry regarded architects as the proper people to organise building. It was important that supervision of buildings should be in the hands of qualified architects, because it tended to lower costs. Tenders were almost always higher for work supervised by an unqualified person than by an architect.

Mr. Alfred Bossom, M.P., pointed out that the skill of architects enabled building costs to be reduced. Local authorities often deluded themselves that they were saving money in architects' fees by employing unqualified officials to design buildings; whereas in a great many cases the unnecessary additional cost of a building due to lack of skill on the part of its unqualified designer, far outweighed any saving in fees. The employment of architects was, in fact, an economy.

Mr. John Laing said that the output of houses since the war had been remarkable. He feared, however, that the standard of design had not always been as good as it should have been.

Lt.-Col. Moore emphasised the value of registration as not only establishing the statutory position of architects, but also as ensuring the future technical competence of the profession.

Sir Percy Hurd referred to the new Act of Parliament applying to Scotland in which the employment of architects was recommended, and in certain eventualities made obligatory on rehousing work. He wished to emphasise the importance of encouraging local authorities by friendly persuasion to observe amenities and to employ skilled technical advice.

Lord Esher said that as Chairman of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, he had been brought into close contact with local authorities, and in many parts of the country had found their artistic intelligence to be non-existent. Under the vast housing schemes and slum clearances now in course of operation, it was a statutory obligation on the local authority not to destroy but to recondition houses of artistic merit. This obligation had been recently reinforced by a circular from the Ministry. Unfortunately, having no education and no traditions in such matters, local authorities did not know, and could not be expected to know, what houses were worth preserving. The

employment of skilled architects was the obvious and only means of their acquiring this knowledge.

Mr. A. L. Roberts, speaking as the official architect of a county council who, he said, customarily analysed their building costs very thoroughly, stated that building work supervised by qualified architects was almost invariably cheaper than that supervised by unqualified persons. He also emphasised the importance of maintenance costs as a factor influencing first cost.

Sir Jonah Walker-Smith spoke of the low standards of design prevailing generally in house building. A great step forward had been taken in 1918-19, largely as the result of the Tudor-Walters Report, mainly the work of architects. The present large housing programme was an opportunity for a similar step forward.

Lord Crawford, in thanking the Minister for receiving the deputation, stressed the importance of preserving the dignity and orderliness of England. On this our reputation so largely depended that what was called amenity had now become a public necessity. In matters affecting the health of the community, the Minister always insisted that the best men available should be employed. It was becoming vitally important that only the best architectural skill obtainable should be utilised on matters of planning and design.

The Minister, in reply, said he fully recognised the desirability of employing professional architects over as wide a field as possible. He was glad to say that local authorities were more and more employing architects and architectural assistants as permanent officers on their staffs. The architect was, in fact, more and more taking his proper place in combination with the engineer, the surveyor, the doctor and the housing director in house building. He commended the Advisory Panels set up by the Royal Institute of British Architects of whose services he would like to see a wider use made in the designing of dwellings for wage-earners, as well as for other purposes. It should also not be forgotten that the beauty of the English countryside depended very largely on the general appropriateness of local materials and character of building generally found in the older buildings. The Ministry of Health had in various ways endeavoured to promote the objects which the Deputation had at heart. The Architect's Department of the Ministry was always available to, and frequently made use of by, local authorities not only in housing but in other large constructional work like hospitals. The Deputation could rely upon him to use his best offices to secure within the limits of local government good design and good planning.

He proposed, for instance, in the circular he was about to address to the local authorities in regard to rehousing for the abatement of overcrowding, to stress again in relation to cottages in rural districts, where it is unusual for the authority to have an architect on the

staff, the desirability of employing skilled architects in all cases, with a view to securing harmonious development. In default of employing an architect, the authorities will be invited to confer with the Architect's Department of the Ministry at the earliest stages.

The President, in expressing the thanks of the Institute

to the Minister for the sympathetic reception he had given to the deputation, made it clear that the Institute were not concerned with urging the employment of architects in private practice in preference to those in salaried positions or vice versa, but rather with utilising the services of all qualified architects.

Architects' Benevolent Society

The 86th annual general meeting of the Architects' Benevolent Society was held in the rooms of the R.I.B.A. on Tuesday, 5 May 1936, at 5 p.m.

Those who were present included Sir Banister (Flight) Fletcher, F.S.A., F.S.I., P.P.R.I.B.A., who took the chair in the absence of Mr. Percy E. Thomas, O.B.E., President; Mr. H. S. E. Vanderpant, Vice-President; Mr. Maurice E. Webb, Honorary Treasurer; Mr. Charles Woodward; Mr. E. Hadden Parkes; Mr. L. S. Sullivan; Mr. Maxwell Ayrton; Mr. R. E. Enthoven; Mr. G. E. S. Streatfeild; Mr. C. M. Hadfield; Mr. C. H. Brodie; Mr. H. Greville Montgomery; Mr. Gilbert H. Lovegrove; Mr. Edward P. Warren; Mr. Ernest Bird; Mr. Murray Leslie; Mr. A. N. Prentice; and Miss E. H. Mann, Secretary.

Sir Banister Fletcher, in moving the adoption of the annual report, said:

"The last time I had the pleasure of presenting the annual report of the Council of the Architects' Benevolent Society was in 1931, in the second year of my Presidency of the R.I.B.A., an office which, as you no doubt know, carries with it the position of President of the Architects' Benevolent Society. To-day, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Percy Thomas, our President, I am here once more to put before you a record of what your Council has done during the past twelve months.

"As you have the report before you on the table, I need not go through it point by point. You will see we have helped nearly one hundred applicants, eighty-three with grants, and fourteen with pensions. As the report states, some of these have been exceptionally hard cases. There was the case of a young widow suddenly deprived of her husband through an accident, and left with two children quite unprovided for; I am happy to say we were able to do something to help her. Then there was the architect whose small practice fell away entirely during a year of severe illness, and whose wife and children were receiving help from the Public Assistance Committee while he was in hospital. We were able to relieve his mind of some of his anxieties, and since his death we have done what we could for his widow. And of course there are the cases of the old people, many of them over eighty, that we help year after year, some of them as often as eighteen or nineteen times. I think perhaps the Society does its most useful if least spectacular

work in thus looking after these old members of the architectural profession and ensuring that their last years are free from want.

"There is one other point in the report which I cannot pass without mentioning. You will find that our annual income has been analysed, and it has been shown that we receive only £1,184 from subscriptions. This represents a subscription list of slightly over 1,000 members. The present membership of the R.I.B.A. is, I understand, over 12,000. When you compare these two figures you will see what a very small proportion subscribe to the Benevolent Society. I should like before I sit down to make a very sincere appeal to all members of the R.I.B.A. who are not members of the Architects' Benevolent Society to contribute something annually towards the excellent work which the Benevolent Society is doing. A guinea, half a guinea, two guineas, five guineas, whatever the amount decided on the Benevolent Society will be very glad to receive it."

The Council for the year of office 1936-37 was elected as follows:—

President: Mr. Percy E. Thomas, O.B.E., P.P.R.I.B.A.

Vice-Presidents: Sir Banister (Flight) Fletcher, F.S.A., F.S.I., P.P.R.I.B.A.; Mr. H. S. E. Vanderpant, Barrister-at-Law [*Hon. A.*]; Sir Charles Nicholson, Bart. M.A. Oxon. [*F.*].

Honorary Treasurer: Mr. Maurice E. Webb, D.S.O., M.C., M.A.Cantab. [*F.*].

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DOMES AND QUATREFOIL PLANS: THE EARLIEST COMBINATION

A RECENT DISCOVERY BY THE BRITISH SCHOOL IN JERUSALEM

By JOSEF STRZYGOWSKI

One of the most charming buildings in the West is the puzzling church of S. Lorenzo at Milan, which was unfortunately rebuilt during the baroque period. The old foundations show that it was a combination of a dome with a quatrefoil plan, of the so-called *eingestellte Vierpasskuppel* type. A glance at *Illustration 1* will show what this means. Four piers placed in the corners of a square carry a dome which is buttressed on the axes by four columned apses. Each of the four piers in S. Lorenzo is a composite group of three piers, and they are further strengthened by the square rooms set diagonally on the corners of the building. The outer walls joining the corner squares are set out on a flat curve which corresponds to the curve of the internal columned apses.

In this building it is only the combination of dome and quatrefoil which is characteristic of the type—so much is clear from Armenian examples—the character of the piers and the plan of the outer walls may vary. In *Fig. 2* I give a plan of the patriarchal church of Zwarthnotz, near Etchmiadzin, on Ararat, in Armenia, a church built near his palace by the Catholicus Nerses III (641-661), who was called The Builder (*Schinogh*); it was excavated at my instigation, and the whole group of buildings is shown in *Fig. 3*. A detailed account of it will be found in my book *Die Baukunst der Armenier und Europa*, p. 108f,

on p. 774 of which there is a note of its close relationship with S. Lorenzo at Milan. The only essential difference between the two churches is that the outer wall of Zwarthnotz is round or 32-sided, not quatrefoil on plan: the *eingestellte Vierpasskuppel*, the dome with the

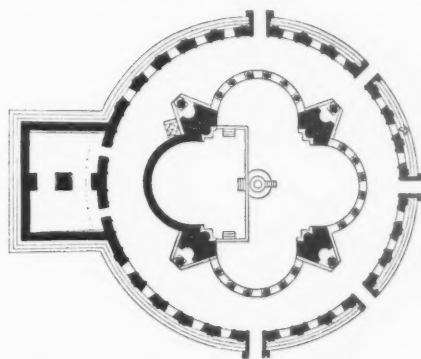


Fig. 2. The Patriarchal church of Zwarthnotz

inner quatrefoil, is exactly the same. In the Armenian church the inner diameter measures 33.73 m., and the four dome piers accordingly are massively built in an "M" shape, and supported by a giant column in the gallery round. There are also buildings in Armenia in which these corner piers have square constructions built against them on the diagonals like those in S. Lorenzo, for example, the corner towers in the ruin of Bana (op. cit., p. 122f.). In Armenia the dome with quatrefoil was widely distributed, and we can see there how quatrefoil buildings with domes, circular galleries or triforia evolved out of simple quatrefoil buildings. S. Lorenzo is only an isolated example of a type which we can trace developing through regular stages in Armenia. In my book on Armenia I have pointed out a connecting link in Bulgaria—the so-called Red church at Peruschitza, near Philippopolis (p. 775).

What we have in this type is the logical culmination of a development which was completed not in the Mediterranean area but in the Persian East in connection with the sun-dried brick buildings of the Mazdaistic fire temple. In Iran or Persia there may

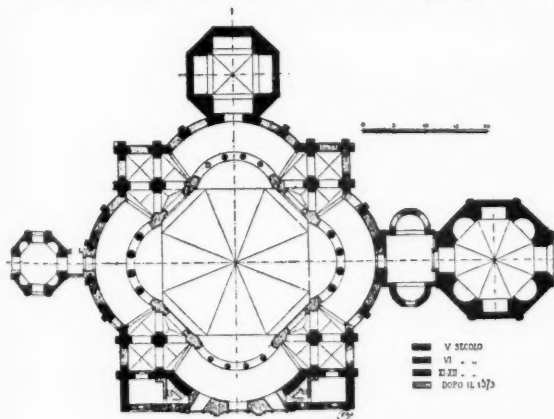


Fig. 1. Plan of S. Lorenzo at Milan

well have been halls for state assemblies with such domes and quatrefoils which were normally temples, somewhat like the church of S. Vitale in Ravenna. This church, as I have shown in my *Asiens Bildende Kunst*, with its Persian capitals and mosaics, was at once a typical Iranian fire temple and state assembly hall; it was smaller but more richly elaborated than the other similar buildings, having, for instance, four apses on the diagonals between the apses on the axes, so that it became an eight-lobed building. It also had triforia, as did all state assembly halls.

In view of what we have just said, everyone will realise the extraordinary importance of the discovery of a new example of this type of state and church building. Such a discovery has now been made in Syria by J. W. Crowfoot, Director of the British School in Jerusalem, who was one of my collaborators in my *Kleinasien* (1904). The *Palestine Exploration Fund Quarterly Statement* for January 1936 contains a preliminary report on the cathedral at Bosra which is of conclusive significance to us research workers in the field of Creative (Bildenden) Art and of architecture in particular.

The cathedral at Bosra was drawn and measured by Melchior de Vogüé in 1853 and published in 1865 by him in his work *La Syrie Centrale*, p. 65f. The dome had collapsed long before that. The interior is a circle slightly larger than Zwarthnotz (c. 36 m. in diameter) and differs from the Zwarthnotz and Milan churches in being inscribed in a square the four corners of which are filled with horse-shoe shaped niches: it was entered by triple doorways on the axes. How the dome over the interior was built has been much disputed, and it is thanks now to Crowfoot's deep excavations on the site that the problem has been finally solved

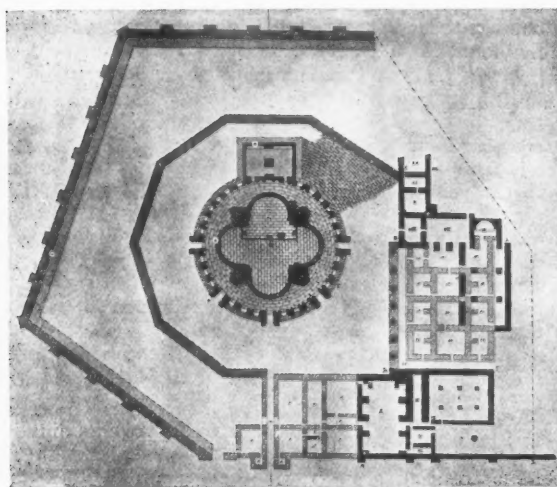


Fig. 3. The Patriarchal church at Zwarthnotz and its surrounding buildings

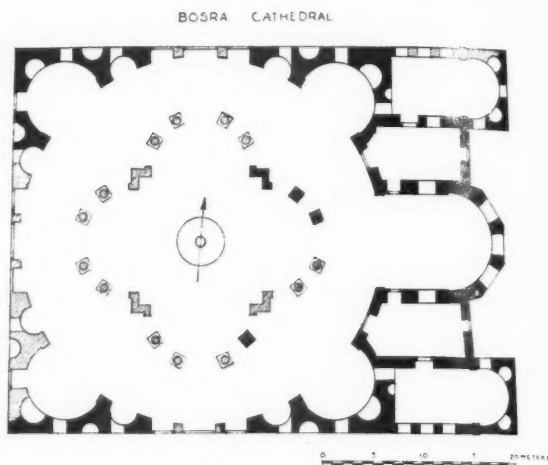


Fig. 4. The Cathedral at Bosra. Plan by A. H. Detweiler, reproduced from the *Palestine Exploration Fund Quarterly Statement*, Jan. 1936

and previous hypothetical reconstructions disproved. His ground plan (see Fig. 4) shows that the church of SS. Sergius, Bacchus, and Leontius, built by Julianus, Archbishop of Bosra 512/3, is a representative of the "dome and quatrefoil," the *eingestellte Vierpasskuppel* type, and is in fact the earliest surviving example of the whole series. The dedication, like the similar dedication in Constantinople, in itself justifies us in hoping to find some day in Iran the origin of the Syrian building, as well as of the Armenian, but before this the surviving fire temples must be published and scientific excavations undertaken to discover, first, the remains of the Mazdaistic temples, and then those of the sun-dried brick domes. The dome has been the dominant feature all over the Christian East, including Eastern Europe, up to the present day, just as in the West we have been dominated by the Hellenistic basilica which the Roman Church adopted as a congregational or assembly hall.

In the preliminary report of the joint Yale-British School expedition to Jerash (*Churches at Jerash*, by J. W. Crowfoot, in *Supplementary Papers*, No. 3, 1931) the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem has already published some extremely valuable plans of a complex of buildings which challenges comparison with the group of buildings round the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem or those at the Mena sanctuary in Lower Egypt. Further excavations on the site at Bosra round the church, which is now covered by the village, will, perhaps, throw more light on the palace of the Archbishop. Further references about Syria will be found in my work *L'Art chrétien primitif de la Syrie*, which is just appearing: I regret that I could not avail myself of Crowfoot's discoveries when writing it.

REVIEW OF CONSTRUCTION AND MATERIALS

This series is compiled from all sources contributing technical information of use to architects. These sources are principally the many research bodies, both official and industrial, individual experts and the R.I.B.A. Science Standing Committee. Every effort is made to ensure that the information given shall be as accurate and authoritative as possible. Questions are invited from readers on matters covered by this section; they should be addressed to the Technical Editor. The following are addresses and telephone numbers which are likely to be of use to those members seeking technical information. There are many other bodies dealing with specialised branches of research whose addresses can be obtained from the Technical Editor. We would remind readers that these bodies exist for the service of Architects and the Building Industry and are always pleased to answer enquiries.

The Director, The Building Research Station, Garston, Nr. Watford, Herts. Telegrams: "Research Phone Watford." Office hours, 9.30 to 5.30. Saturdays 9 to 12.30.

The Director, The Forest Products Research Laboratory, Princes Risborough, Bucks. Telephone: Princes Risborough 101. Telegrams: "Timberlab Princes Risborough." Office hours, 9.15 to 5.30. Saturdays 9.15 to 12.

The Director, The British Standards Institution, 28 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Telephone: Victoria 3127 and 3128. Telegrams: "Standards Sowest London." Office hours, 9.30 to 5. Saturdays 9.30 to 12.30.

The Technical Manager, The Building Centre Ltd., 158 New Bond Street, London, W.1. Telephone: Regent 2701, 2705. Office hours, 10 to 6. Saturdays 10 to 1.

EFFICIENCIES OF GLASS

The Illumination Research Committee have issued a report* on a series of tests of window glasses intended to discover (1) the percentages of light transmitted; (2) the concealing powers of so-called "obscured" glasses; (3) the loss of transmission due to gradual accumulation of dirt.

In none of the three is there revealed anything very unexpected. The various types of window glass admit proportions of light and obscure the images seen through them very much as one would imagine from experience they would.

In the first test, forty-nine different kinds of window glass were measured under three typical conditions, viz., (a) with direct light at approximately right angles to the glass, as in a window facing an open space; (b) completely diffused light such as that received on a roof light from a complete hemisphere of uniform sky; (c) light restricted to angles of incidence from 45 degrees to 90 degrees, as would be received by a window facing a street in which the angle of elevation of the opposite buildings is 45 degrees.

In the test (a) the values ranged from 92 to 65 per cent. Curiously enough, we find the highest figure was for two obscured glasses, double-rolled white and "Pinhead Morocco." Polished plate and ordinary sheet were 89, rough-cast glass 85, double-rolled cathedral white 88, "Vita" glass double-rolled and "Stippolyte" 90. In general it may be noted that many of the obscured glasses compare very favourably with plain glasses. The lowest figure of 65 was given by a prismatic glass used the wrong way round.

In test (b) there is very little to choose between the glasses normally used in roof lights. In test (c) the prismatic glasses come out well, but not quite so well as one might expect. One, however, gives a figure of 81 as against 78 of polished

plate. Wired glasses appear to be obstructers of light. In test (a) rough cast gives 85 and wired rough cast 79.

In the second test—for obscuring or concealing power—the results are given in a series of photographs, the samples being backed with a black and white chequer pattern. Here one must judge solely by appearances. Among the best are "Pinhead Morocco," figured rolled, medium pattern "Muranese," and "Kaleidoscope No. 3." Ordinary frosted, "satin finished," and "Stippolyte" are not quite so good. The different effects are also interesting. Some glasses, such as hammered double-rolled cathedral and Arctic white small, split the chequer pattern up into series of small bright dots. Others, such as the Flemish glasses, make shapeless blobs of the white squares.

The results of the third test—on the obscuring power of dirt—are shown in an appendix. Two samples of each of the forty-nine glasses were placed in separate frames and exposed, one set facing east and the other west, in the tower of a Government office in Whitehall. The glasses were not cleaned for about 18 months, and their transmission values were obtained from time to time. In six weeks the reduction was less than 10 per cent. After three months the rate at which light was lost slowed down until at the end of the 18 months about 40 per cent. of light was lost. From this it may reasonably be argued that if windows are cleaned at not more than six-weekly intervals no appreciable amount of light will be lost. It was found that the glass facing west remained only slightly cleaner than that facing east.

A second series of short-period tests were carried out in a light well at two levels with both east and west exposures. It was found that windows at ground-floor level (in Westminster) dirty twice as fast in winter as in summer. The ground-floor windows became dirty appreciably more quickly than those at the upper level (30 feet). The rate of dirtying is not much affected by the nature of the surface of the glass.

* Illumination Research Technical Paper No. 18. *The Transmission of Light Through Window Glasses.* H.M. Stationery Office. 9d.

B.S. SPECIFICATION FOR STRUCTURAL STEEL

A revised edition of the British Standard Specification for Structural Steel for Bridges, etc., and General Building Construction (B.S.S. No. 15) has been issued by the British Standards Institution.

Of the modifications now made, the withdrawal of the division into A steel and B steel, which has existed for so long, will be immediately noticed, and a word or two in regard to this may not be out of place. It will be remembered that the distinction between the two steels was that A steel was steel made only by the open hearth process (acid or basic), with a limitation of sulphur or phosphorus to 0.06 per cent., whereas B steel could, in addition, be made by the acid Bessemer process, and also a slightly higher content of phosphorus, namely, 0.08 per cent., was permitted in all three processes. As a result of improvement in technique in steelmaking, coupled with the fact that there are now no acid Bessemer plants in this country working on high phosphorus iron made from foreign ores, it has been possible to reduce the phosphorus content in steel made by that process to the same figure as was previously specified for A steel, and the need for the B steel category has disappeared.

Another change which calls for some remark is the reduction in the number of bend tests which are now required. Probably few, if any, architects ever insisted upon the full extent of the testing allowed, relying upon the discretion of the inspector as to the amount necessary, and consequently the requirement that a bend test could be taken from each bar or section as rolled remained undisturbed. The possibility of the clause being rigidly adhered to was, however, brought to the notice

of the Committee, indeed, an actual case was cited in which this has been done, and it was unanimously agreed that under present conditions of steel-making, so great a number of tests was unnecessary, and that the specification should be brought into conformity with the general practice of many years.

The following further modifications have been made in the new issue:

The diameter or thickness of round or square bars, for the purposes other than concrete reinforcement, below which tensile tests are not required to be made, has been increased from $\frac{1}{4}$ in. to $\frac{3}{8}$ in.

The specified elongation for round or square bars under $\frac{3}{8}$ in. in diameter or thickness has been reduced from 20 to 16 per cent.

The specified elongation for rivet bars has been slightly increased from 25 to 26 per cent.

The rolling margin on thin plates and small bars has been increased, and the particulars are now set out in tabular form.

The rolling margins on plates below a certain thickness and round and square bars below a certain diameter or side are now required to be ascertained separately from those of larger dimension, the limiting figures being $\frac{1}{4}$ in. in the case of plates, and $\frac{3}{8}$ in. in the case of round and square bars.

Copies of this Specification (No. 15-1936) may be obtained from the British Standards Institution, Publications Department, 28, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, price 2s. 2d., post free. A. ALBAN H. SCOTT

ORDNANCE SURVEY MAPS

In 1935 a Departmental Committee on the Ordnance Survey was appointed to consider how the revision of Ordnance maps could be accelerated, in particular for town-planning purposes, and whether any alterations to scales, styles, and conditions of issue were desirable. The Committee have issued an interim report* which makes recommendations on the more urgent matters.

That many existing maps are in varying degrees out of date has for some time been a complaint of town planners. It is stated that in May, 1935, planning schemes were being prepared for 46 per cent. of the area of England and Wales; as the result of a questionnaire addressed to local authorities it was found that the total number of 1:2500 scale maps requiring revision was about 4,500. In some cases town-planning schemes were entirely held up because of the deficiencies of the maps of the areas concerned. Substantial revision was found to be required on some 1,400 maps.

The report discusses the difficulty of accelerating revision by the existing methods and staff. A new edition of an Ordnance Survey map, including field revision, checking of names and boundaries, calculations of areas, addition of levels, fair drawing and printing, occupies on the average a period of two years from the time when the work is put in hand. Moreover, it takes a full year to train a man in field work.

The Committee have concluded that for urgent town-planning purposes it would be sufficient to revise a map to show new field boundaries, buildings, and other physical features, omitting new bench marks, names of new roads and streets, and the numbers and areas of "parcels" of land in

which alteration has taken place since the last revision. This they find would reduce the time required for revision to one year. By this and other methods the output of revised sheets would be raised from the present possible maximum of 200 per year so that by the end of 1937 about 800 maps, and by the end of 1938 a further 600 maps, revised for town planning, could be issued. They therefore recommend that an interim edition on the lines suggested be issued.

They also recommend that an immediate and substantial increase in staff be made, which should further accelerate the output in 1938, and also allow full revision to be made more frequently in future. If this were done, it should be possible to have the whole of the 1,400 maps completed for town planning by about the middle of 1938.

The Committee have examined the use of air photography as a means of accelerating or as a substitute for field work. They say, apparently on reliable authority, that on the average in this country only 100 to 150 flying hours, or 20 to 30 days, are suitable during the year for this kind of air photography. Nevertheless, they are convinced that it is possible by this method to produce an accurate map for town-planning purposes, and that its use would help to accelerate production. They therefore recommend that tenders be obtained for the photography of suitable areas.

The report discusses at some length the conditions upon which the reproduction of Ordnance Survey maps is permitted.

The Committee have clearly been much helped in their work by the Chartered Surveyors' Institution, who submitted a great deal of evidence. This evidence has been published in two parts, the first in the Journal of the Institution of August 1935, and the second as a separate pamphlet.

*Interim Report of the Departmental Committee on the Ordnance Survey. H.M. Stationery Office, 3d.

Book Reviews

MR. WILLIAM HARVEY'S SURVEYS OF THE CHURCHES OF THE NATIVITY, BETHLEHEM, AND THE HOLY SEPULCHRE, JERUSALEM

It would probably be impossible to name any other two buildings the importance of which as historical monuments can compare with these two collapsing Palestinian churches. As the reputed monuments of the sites of Christ's birth and death their appeal stretches, in place, far beyond their own land, in time beyond the temporary enthusiasms of this age, historically it transcends the narrowly confined architectural or archaeological interests of the comparatively few architects and archaeologists who are interested in Byzantine art. This trust is ours. In the British mandate over Palestine we have direct responsibility for the buildings, which, from the evidence of this report, we are shouldering resolutely. When it became evident, as it has been now for some years, that immediate action was necessary if the churches of the Nativity and the Holy Sepulchre were to be preserved from perhaps complete collapse the Department of Antiquities in Palestine, who are responsible for the structures under the Government of Palestine, wisely decided to call in Mr. William Harvey, whose experience as a scientific surveyor of ancient fabrics is probably unrivalled. Not only is Mr. Harvey skilled in conducting the survey, but what is rare he is skilled in the marshalling of results, the preparation of plans to illustrate the points which arise in his reports and in retaining throughout a true scientific objectivity.

Both reports, admirably printed by the Oxford Press, are illustrated by many good photographs, cleverly taken to illustrate points in Mr. Harvey's argument, and by large numbers of Mr. Harvey's explanatory diagrams, many of which are drawn by Mr. J. H. Harvey. These drawings are models of their kind. There is never one superfluous line, never a line too thin or too thick to explain exactly what it has to explain without unnecessary waste of effect. In all of them there is not a single illegible piece of lettering or a dimension which is not clear; if this was not rare, it would not be worth comment.

Each volume is introduced by a short historical chapter written by Mr. E. T. Richmond, Director of the Department of Antiquities. Mr. Richmond's

introductions are essential to the report, because Mr. Harvey sticks so closely to his job of reporting on the structural defects and their cure that except in "asides" he hardly at all touches on the chronology of the fabrics, about which it is necessary to have some knowledge if the cause and quality of the defects are to be understood by anyone who cannot make his own inspection of the churches.

The body of each report is in three parts: (1) The present structural state; (2) the repairs recommended; and (3) suggested alterations which Mr. Harvey thinks desirable on archaeological or utilitarian grounds, but which are independent of the scheme of repair.

The original Church of the Nativity was built as a result of a decision by the Council of Nicea (A.D. 325) to glorify the sites associated with the Nativity, the Resurrection and the Ascension. No detailed description of the plan of this first monument exists. In the 6th century Justinian made important alterations which are partly documented. Justinian's basilica survived the Persian invasion in 614, and some subsequent attacks; though it suffered badly at the time of the Crusades it escaped demolition. During the Middle Ages continual additions and decorative contributions were made, and until the end of the 14th century the splendour with which the church had been invested in the time of the Latin Kingdom, which closed in 1187, remained almost intact; thereafter decay set in and increased until an earthquake in 1832 so damaged the structure that a restoration was begun by the Greeks.

In 1809 a fire damaged the cave of the Nativity and completed the decay of the ancient decorations. The faults in the structure can now no longer be met by patchwork, and it is sincerely to be hoped that the Government will be able to implement Mr. Harvey's proposals.

The church is a triapsidal basilica, the nave flanked by double aisles with ranges of monolithic columns. The rock on which the church rests is of poor limestone undermined by grottoes; everywhere are serious cracks and subsidences; the walls lean out alarmingly, and the vaults are dangerous. The wall stonework is finely jointed on the external face, but the joints are open internally and the mortar has turned to dust or disappeared. Throughout the beams have decayed through dry rot and wood worm.

In general Mr. Harvey proposes that cracks in the rock and masonry should be grouted, that masonry repairs should be made with new materials and firm

Structural Survey of the Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem, by William Harvey. 80. xxviii + 30 pp. + 22 plates of drgs. + 117 pp. photos + 6 folded plans, etc. London: O.U.P. 1935. 36s.

Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Jerusalem. Structural survey final report, by William Harvey. 80. xxvi + 28 pp. + 5 plates of drgs. + 124 pp. photos + 5 folded plans, etc. London: O.U.P. 1935. 36s.

joints established throughout. Some of the walls, that, for instance, of the South clerestory, must be taken down and rebuilt, and a continuous band of reinforced concrete inserted in all external walls at the aisle and main roof wall-plate levels. Timber architraves must be removed and replaced by reinforced concrete beams prepared to reproduce the form of the old architraves. The roof will have to be removed and rebuilt in stainless steel reinforced concrete. Mr. Harvey carefully notes, to forestall what might have been an obvious point of criticism, that the use of concrete to replace timber is solely due to the danger from wood worm and other forms of timber decay, particularly dangerous in a hot climate. By continual inspection only could timber be preserved; "it is unlikely that this would be done in Palestine." Alterations proposed for other than purely structural reasons are the opening of closed-up windows and doors.

A peculiar problem has arisen with reference to a mosaic floor discovered about 0.75 metres below the present floor. Three alternatives are suggested: to record the details of the mosaics and re-lay the new floor over it at the level of the former marble paving a little below the existing level; to take up the old mosaic and re-lay it at the higher level; or to leave the mosaic floor in the nave at its present low level and to raise only the aisle floors above it, but this would require some structural compensation for the removal of the filling on the nave side of the stylobate and steps would be needed between the varying levels.

The Church of the Holy Sepulchre contains examples of work of 19 centuries. The main part of the present church is of the Crusader period (1140-80). Like the Church of the Nativity it has suffered from earthquake, timber pests and neglect, but it is still possible, says Mr. Richmond in his introduction, to gain some appreciation of the architectural ingenuity, of the constructional skill and of the perfection of workmanship in matters of detail of the original builders. In plan this church consists of the "rotunda," or Church of the Anastasis, and its annexed basilica, the rotunda taking the place of the nave in a normal church. East of the rotunda is a transept with the main entrance in one of its arms, and east of the crossing a choir and ambulatory. The whole is clustered around with a maze of smaller apartments.

Here the chief immediate trouble is the thrust of the Katholikon or basilica dome, and secondly the thrust from the rotunda dome. Masonry throughout has been affected by a fire in 1808 (the risk of fire at present is alarming), and cracks are evident in most walls, though not all are serious. The roofs are poor and not watertight.

Here, as in the Nativity Church, the repairs consist primarily of wall consolidation by grouting, the insertion of new stone and the provision of tensional reinforcements of bands of concrete laid in the thickness of the walls. Other repairs, apart from those necessary for purely structural reasons, are proposed. It is suggested, for instance, that the work should give an opportunity of reconstructing the apse as far as possible according to its original form and so as to harmonise with the general design. The upper part was entirely built in 1810.

In both reports there is ample evidence of the urgency of the work. Undoubtedly Mr. Harvey's proposals will get the detailed consideration they deserve, and it can

be hoped that having proceeded thus far with the preliminaries of a proper restoration there will not be endless delays before the work is put in hand. These reports should be studied in every part by everyone interested in the preservation of old structures. Perhaps some experts will disagree with some of Mr. Harvey's proposals (it is a way experts have), but there can be nothing but praise for the amazing exactitude of his method of survey and the excellent manner in which the whole report, text, drawings and photographs, has been presented.

AN INTERNATIONAL HOUSING SURVEY

SLUM CLEARANCE. Published for *International Housing Association* by Hoffmann, Stuttgart. 2 vols. 4to; text xii. + 209 pp.; plates 83 pp. 1935.

EQUIPMENT OF SMALL DWELLINGS. As above. 2 vols.; text vii + 163 pp.; plates 83 pp.

These four volumes were published as a basis for discussion at the Housing Association's Prague Conference 1935. They provide an excellent survey of modern housing in Europe and America. Every country is faced with the problem of slums and no country has even approached its solution. Those few such as Austria, which made a valiant attempt soon after the war, have mostly suffered economic and political setbacks which have prevented the completion of work well started; others have solidly continued; England, for instance, to do much but for reasons, which though evident, perhaps, to some people, are not sufficiently evident to the national conscience as a whole, have destroyed the success of what has been done by lack of proper sociological and industrial planning. The first two volumes contain descriptions of the problems and illustrations of schemes of practically every European country and the U.S.A. The English contribution was made by the Director of Housing for the Borough of Bermondsey and deals particularly with the problem, a typical one, in that London area in which some of the most interesting L.C.C. housing has been effected.

The two Equipment volumes illustrate schemes from ten European countries, excluding Great Britain, and the U.S.A.

The amount of information that can be given in reports of this nature is obviously seriously limited both by the occasion, the possible length and the limitations of the contributors; nevertheless, these are books which every student of housing should endeavour to study.

GLASTONBURY

GLASTONBURY ABBEY THEN AND NOW, by Arthur E. Henderson. 8vo. 25 pp. 12 pp. plates. London: Simpkin Marshall. 1936. 2s.

Glastonbury's woeful "towering and gaunt masses of masonry" have excited more romance and speculation and for those who have been bewitched by its mystery more architectural exultation than perhaps any monastic ruins in the country. Mr. Henderson's reconstruction owes not a little to this exultation but it is a good factual piece of work that he has done in visualising and portraying his vision of what the monastery was like between 1184 and 1539. His method is the same as that he used in his pictorial reconstruction of Tintern, published last year. On the left-hand side of each opening is a photograph of the ruin, and beneath it a brief text explaining his drawing on the opposite page of what the building was like. Honest speculation plays its part, as of course it must, but no one, whether or not he agrees with Mr. Henderson's opinions, can be other than grateful for such a useful book. Those who in future go to Glastonbury with Mr. Henderson as their guide, particularly those who lacking architectural knowledge lack the power to visualise for themselves, will have now a guide worth pages of literary theorising or archaeological exactitude.

Review of Periodicals

Attempt is made in this review to refer to the more important articles in all the journals received by the Library. None of the journals mentioned are in the Loan Library, but the Librarian will be pleased to give information about prices and where each journal can be obtained. Members can have photostat copies of particular articles made at their own cost on application to the Librarian.

SCHOOLS

CONSTRUCTION MODERNE (PARIS). Vol. LI. No. 33. 17 May. P. 662.

Groupes Scholaires, Parc des Princes, Paris, by Brandon and Catelain, and at Aubervilliers by Pessemies and Boudier; latter includes technical schools.

LIBRARIES

ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS. Vol. CXLVI. No. 3517. 15 May.

BUILDER. Vol. CL. No. 4867. 15 May. P. 976.

New Bodleian Library building, Oxford, by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, illustrated and reviewed.

MOSCOW CONSTRUCTOR. 1934. No. 36. P. 4.

Designs for a library of geographical maps, Moscow, by N. Kostochkin.

RADIO

BYGGE KUNST (OSLO). Vol. XVIII. No. 6. June. P. 154. Competition for Norwegian Radio building, won by Nils Holter.

CIVIC

ARCHITECTS' JOURNAL. Vol. LXXXIII. No. 2156. 14 May. P. 724.

ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS. Vol. CXLVI. No. 3517. 15 May.

BUILDER. Vol. CL. No. 4867. 15 May. P. 978.

Parliament House, Southern Rhodesia. Winning competition design by Mr. E. Berry Webber [A.].

INDUSTRIAL

ARCHITECTURAL FORUM. Vol. LXIV. No. 5. May. P. 413. Owens-Illinois research laboratory building—all glass building for research into applications of glass in packing industry.

SHOPS

BUILDER. Vol. CL. No. 4866. 8 May. P. 930.

ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS. Vol. CXLVI. No. 3516. 8 May.

Simpson's shop for men's clothes, etc., Piccadilly, by Joseph Emberton; one of the most important buildings of its kind in London.

HOSPITALS, &c., AND WELFARE BUILDINGS

ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS. Vol. CXLVI. No. 3517. 15 May. P. 183.

East Grinstead Hospital, by F. G. Troup [F.], L. H. Parsons [A.], and A. C. Denny [A.], two 12-bed wards for men and women, and children's ward, and usual administrative and operating departments, etc., also staff accommodation.

BYGGE KUNST (OSLO). Vol. XVII. No. 6. June. P. 141. Ringvoll sanatorium, Norway, by Fr. Crawford-Jensen, C. T. Larsen, and Otto Hald. A large 4-floored, single-unit building; well illustrated.

ARQUITECTURA (MADRID). Vol. XVIII. No. 3. March. P. 73.

Children's home by L. G. Soto.

MODERNE BAUFORMEN. Vol. XXXV. No. 5. May. P. 241.

Springs and pump room at Wiesbaden Spa by Eisenlohr and Pfennig.

MEMORIALS

MONATSHEFTE F. BAUKUNST U. STADTEBAU. Vol. XX. No. 5. May. P. 177.

Various war-memorials in Germany, generally good combinations of building, sculpture and scenic planning.

DOMESTIC AND HOUSING

ARCHITECTURE D'AUJOURD'HUI. Vol. VII. No. 4. April. P. 70. Studio Flats, Amsterdam, by Zanstra, Giesen and Sijmons, with north front studio; also flats Schoneberg-Berlin, by R. Fränkel.

MODERNE BAUFORMEN. Vol. XXXV. No. 5. May. P. 249. Housing; article on the conclusions of the Int. Hous. Assn. Prague Conference on small dwellings equipment; also illustrations, etc., of large tenement housing scheme, Berlin-Weissensee, and at Zurich.

BOUWKUNDIG WEEKBLAD ARCHITETURA. 1936. No. 20. 16 May. P. 225.

Tenements, Blijdorp, Rotterdam, by J. H. van den Broek. NATIONAL BUILDER. Vol. XV. No. 10. May.

Continuation of Housing analysis supplements; present issue photos and data of lavatory basins and equipment and w.c.'s.

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

BUILDER. Vol. CL. No. 4865. 1 May. P. 869.

Wooden Bridge Hotel, Guildford, by G. Maxwell Aylwin [F.]; also in 24 April. Stoneleigh Hotel, Ewell, by A. E. Sewell [L.].

WERK (ZURICH). Vol. XXIII. No. 5. May.

Illustrations and descriptions of several recent Swiss restaurants.

CHURCHES

CONSTRUCTION MODERNE. Vol. LV. No. 32. 10 May. P. 642. Church of St. Jeanne d'Arc, Nice, one of the most peculiar historico-romantic engineering buildings in France, the home of such things. A groined parabolic vault in concrete. J. Droz, architect.

FORUM (BRUNN). Vol. VI. No. 4. 1936.

Recent Austrian churches.

MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW. Vol. LXXIX. No. 474. May. Bricks. Magnificent special number with articles on the history of brick building, by Ross Williamson, and varieties and manufacture by J. K. Winsor.

BUILDING. Vol. XI. No. 5. May.

Comparative costs of Construction series. Part 4, Paving.

BYGGE KUNST (OSLO). Vol. XVIII. No. 3.

Special architectural lighting number.

TOWN PLANNING

JOURNAL MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY ENGINEERS. Vol. LXII. No. 23. 12 May. P. 1209.

Road junctions: notes on design and lay-out by H. S. L. Knight and A. H. Beddington.

GENERAL

ARCHITECTURE D'AUJOURD'HUI. Vol. VII. No. 4. April. P. 9. Architecture in German. A long critical survey of current German tendencies in architecture and art; well illustrated.

Obituaries

DIIS MANIBUS

HUMFRY G. G. PAYNE

Director of the British School at Athens

Payne's unlooked-for death on May the 8th at the age of 34, in a hospital in Athens, is a pure tragedy. His friends, in ignorance of the circumstances, must write some description of his life scarcely believing as yet in his death. Has he investigated some source too closely? What has he done? Who has taken him in his full powers, so well equipped, capable of so much?

He was appointed director of the British School at Athens in 1929: it was since then that he became widely known as a gifted student of Greek art in the archaic field. Previously he had held a research scholarship at Christ Church, and for two years was assistant at the Ashmolean Museum. The work that first showed his powers was *Necrocorinthia*: a study of Corinthian art in the Archaic period. "The need of a serious study of Corinthian vases had long been felt," says a writer in *The Times*, "but the material was so vast and scattered that no one had dared to undertake it. Payne mastered this material." Besides being able to survey and order a large field, he had remarkable analytical and deductive powers. Also he had minute visual memory. Hence his detective feats like the piecing together of the "Aphrodite of Lyons," and his finding in Athens the equestrian body belonging to the "Rampin Head" in the Louvre. It was in 1930, in the Perachora excavations, that he and his fellow workers at the British School found the fragments of temple models of the Geometrical period, which Payne analysed and pieced together, and which have revolutionised our view of early temples. Last year I did some work on the temple models, and often visited him in his workshop above one of those cloistral courts in the National Museum in Athens. Here he was to be found among his trays, with some thought-provoking fragment before him, streamed upon by the Attic sunshine and below him the branches of the figs warming into leaf at that season. Under his fingers all the fragments in the museum seemed part of a whole picture puzzle; when he moved them about little scenes began to appear—corners of Greek life—gods and shepherds, doric columns, ladies at a well. There was nothing archaic about his appearance: it was much more 5th century. He had the dignity and reserve of a boy, and the beauty. The Greek custodians admired Kirios Payne: he never had a speck of dust upon him, though he worked all day among sherds or marble fragments. When he lectured it was without mannerisms. I remember at the Acropolis Museum at a lecture on archaic sculpture how we moved from one kore to another, rather initiated than informed, asked to distinguish delicate Ionian traits. Payne taught by a kind of direct communication, by the simplicity of his movement and tone, by his familiarity with the pieces. And the "maidens" of the 6th century, for whom he had done so much, seemed in the shadows of their eyes, their slight ceremonial smiles, to acknowledge his disinterested admiration. The galleries are badly lit, and in the half light he still stands in my mind, with his little pointer indicating some piece of ornament, familiar with perfection, a youth for whom no allowances need be made.

He leaves a wife and, at the British School, some sincere friends and colleagues who know better than others the work he might have done in the future. We must extend to them our deepest sympathy and respect.

H. BAGENAL [A.]

JOSEPH CROUCH, J.P. [Retd. F.]

We regret to record the death of Mr. Joseph Crouch [Retd. F.] who died on 2 April.

He was born in 1853, and after King Edward's Grammar School he was articled in Birmingham. He practised there from 1884 until the end of his life and was joined in partnership first by Edmund Butler in 1886 and later by Rupert Savage in 1911. He became an Associate of the Institute in 1913, and retired in 1935.

Mr. Crouch designed a large number of schools, churches, municipal buildings and libraries, especially in Leamington and Warwick, and he planned some housing schemes for many municipal authorities. He was also a member of the National Housing and Town Planning Committee. He wrote "Planning and Designing of a Methodist Church," "Puritanism and Art"; and "The Appointments of the House."

Mr. Crouch is succeeded by Mr. Rupert Savage [F.] and Mr. W. Cyril Moss.

H. V. WOLSTENHOLME [Retd. F.]

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Harry Vernon Wolstenholme, a Retired Fellow, on 15 April 1936. Mr. Wolstenholme was born in 1863, and was articled to Mr. Miles Aspinall of Blackburn, and later to Mr. Clark, of Liverpool. He practised for a short time in Liverpool, and in Blackburn in partnership with Mr. Frank Briggs, and Sir Arnold Thorneley, and became a Fellow in 1900.

Among his chief architectural works are the Liverpool Dock and Harbour Board Buildings; the Blackburn Sessions House and Public Halls (in conjunction with the late Mr. Herbert Stoner); Wallasey Town Hall; King Edward VII School, and Fairhaven Congregational Church, both at Lytham, and many other public buildings.

Mr. Wolstenholme was co-opted on to the Blackburn Library, Museum and Art Gallery Committee in 1893, and was largely responsible for the great improvement which was made in the gallery during the last twenty years. He will be greatly missed, as he had a wide knowledge of pictures, and antique furniture, and had a considerable private collection of his own.

C. HOWARD WALKER [Hon. Corr. Member]

A MEMOIR BY DR. THOMAS ADAMS [F.]

Mr. C. Howard Walker, an Honorary Corresponding Member of the Institute, died at Palmer Memorial Hospital, Boston, on Sunday, 12 April. He was in his eightieth year, and up to a short time before his death was still active as a practising architect, and as a teacher. He was a vigorous personality, with a clear and penetrating mind, a distinguished architect, with a profound admiration for European

culture, a practical man with a common-sense recognition of the realities in modern developments of technology and art, and a forceful exponent in conversation and public speech of the principles in which he believed.

I did not know him well, and have the regret that with a slight effort I might have known him better; for we lectured during consecutive hours at the Department of Architecture of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. When you met him, his demeanour, stern on the surface, and his wonderful agility, belying his 75 years or more, gave one a vivid impression of his strength before he opened his lips. Only five or six years ago he could have been seen, ten minutes before his lecture began, rushing into the Department and up the steep stairs to the library to select his slides.

My last view of him in action was in a brief combat of wits with Frank Lloyd Wright. Wright was giving a lecture in Boston, and claiming for "Wrightism" something that was opposed to both modernism and classicism. Walker resented Wright's claim to originality, and questioned the artistic quality of designs that had been shown, but the occasion was not one to permit him to score.

He was drawn early into the study of Archaeology and the Fine Arts in Asia and Europe. During 1882 and 1883 he visited Asia Minor on an architectural expedition, and travelled to many centres in Europe to study architecture. He began practice in 1884 as a member of the firm of Walker and Kimball.

His work included designs for the Omaha Exposition in 1898, and Louis Exposition in 1904, and for other American "World Fairs." He was interested in engineering, and is said to have been the "father of automobile streamlining," and at an early period in motor car production suggested that they should be designed "like swans."

As early as 1889 he served as a member of the Boston Art Commission, and later was President of the Metropolitan Improvement League of Boston, member of the National Fine Arts Commission, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and American Federation of Arts. In 1921 the University of Pennsylvania awarded him the honorary degree of Doctor of Fine Arts.

He gave his principal course of lectures at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, his subjects being European Civilisation and Art, and when he retired in 1933 he had been associated with the Architectural Department of the Institute as lecturer and professor for 49 years. He also lectured at Harvard, and for a time was Director of the School of Fine Arts in Boston.

It was mainly as a teacher and as an exponent of architectural history and principles that Walker was distinguished. He had a gift of speaking with force and wit that on occasion rose to the level of oratory, but he was always level-headed and never trespassed beyond the boundaries of his own field of knowledge and experience. He loved to lecture and was popular with students. His last lecture was given only a month before he died.

MR. J. D. KENDALL [L.]

We regret to announce the sudden death of Mr. John David Kendall on Easter Monday, 13 April. Before working in London, Mr. Kendall was Borough Architect at Taunton, and was elected a Licentiate in 1926 and from 1934 worked with Mr. L. M. Gotch [F.], by whom he is succeeded in practice. Recently he had been associated with Mr. Gotch in extending Douai Abbey, and in building a new swimming bath and gymnasium there, amounting to a total expenditure of about £30,000.

He was at one time editor of *Architectural Design and Construction* and assistant architectural editor of the 14th edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*.

SEIICHIRO CHUJO [Hon. A.]

We regret to record the death of Mr. Seiichiro Chujo on 30 January. Mr. Chujo had been an Honorary Associate of the Institute since 1926.

CORRECTION

We regret that in the obituary of Mr. George Hubbard in the last number of the JOURNAL the year in which he became an Associate and a Fellow was incorrectly given. Mr. Hubbard became an Associate in 1895, and proceeded to Fellowship in the same year. He retired in 1929.

C.P.R.E., R.I.B.A. and I.O.B. Advisory Panels

CUMBERLAND AND LAKE DISTRICT PANELS:

A joint meeting between the Cumberland Branch of the Northern Architectural Association and the Lake District Advisory Panel was held at Keswick on Wednesday, 22 April. It was stated that a successful working arrangement between the Cumberland County Council and the Cumberland Architects' Committee had been established, and a similar arrangement was commended to the Westmorland and Lancashire County Councils. This arrangement does not in any way conflict with the good work of the Lakeland Panel.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE PANELS:

At the Annual Meeting of the Buckinghamshire Society of Architects, held at Slough, the President, Mr. W. D. Hartley [F.], said: "The greatest service the Society has been

able to render the community is the setting up of the Advisory Panel System. The Panels have now been reorganised to assist the various Planning Committees, and a County Advisory Panel (in accordance with the Central Panels Committee's scheme) has been set up at Aylesbury."

YORKSHIRE:

At the Annual Meeting of the Cleveland Branch of the C.P.R.E., the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. F. P. Wilson, reported that one of the most fruitful meetings of the year was the Conference of Architects which resulted in the formation of an Advisory Panel. The Panel has already organised a Competition for Designs of Small Houses suitable for both Urban and Rural Conditions.

G. H. JACK [F.]
C.P.R.E. Panel Secretary

Correspondence

LIBRARY PLANNING

The University Library, Leeds, 2.

19.5.36.

The Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.

SIR,—I read Mr. Dod's paper on *Library Planning* in your last issue with much interest and with great regret that I was prevented at the last moment from listening to it.

Mr. Dod has presumably no liking for a circular plan, as he does not refer to the first great library of that shape erected in this country, the Radcliffe Camera, one of the most beautiful reading rooms, however, ever erected. Moreover, he makes no reference whatsoever to the latest circular library building in Great Britain, the Brotherton Library of the University of Leeds, which was opened to readers a few weeks ago, and which has already attracted widespread commendation alike from readers and from the public. The Brotherton Library is the most ambitious enterprise of the kind attempted in this country, at any rate if regard is paid to the comparative youth of the University to which it belongs.

The fact is, as Mr. Esdaile says, that it is difficult to ignore the question of site. The great value of the circular reading room at the Museum is that it is both a well-lighted room, and is well placed in relation to the buildings surrounding the quadrangle in which it is situated. This is precisely what will also happen at Leeds. The main floors of the library have excellent natural light: yet they will be most conveniently placed in relation to the chief science departments and to the arts lecture rooms when the whole scheme is completed. It is very largely because of the compact plan of the whole block of buildings that Leeds has been able to avoid the unfortunate expedient of relegating large numbers of books to departmental and class libraries, a practice that has been carried very far at Liverpool in the past. One wonders to what extent Mr. Dod's building on a detached site will obviate this difficulty.

I do not desire to take this opportunity of discussing at length the particular characteristics of the Brotherton Library. I should like, however, to emphasise two important points. The first is this: I cannot imagine whence Mr. Dod derives the idea that the open access system is of theoretical importance only. There is certainly no tendency in our universities to give it up: at Leeds we hope in time to have 200,000 volumes accessible to *all* readers, and we can also in course of time make accessible at least another 200,000 volumes in rooms surrounding the stack floor. A professor told me the other day that the privilege he had valued most highly as an undergraduate was that of browsing freely amongst the million or so volumes in the University Library at Cambridge.

The other point is this: Mr. Esdaile rightly states that there are three elements in the planning of a library, and one of these elements is, he says, the administrator. Administration has, as is my experience of university library planning,

come off much the worst of the three elements. In one library eulogised by Mr. Dod, the administrative rooms are scattered in a most haphazard way. At Leeds we have a carefully planned suite of rooms: librarian's room in the centre, office, sub-librarian's room and assistant librarian's room on one side; cataloguing room, binding room with unloading dock on the other side. The cataloguing room, in turn, opens straight into the recess in the main reading room containing encyclopædias, library catalogues and bibliographies, thereby much wasteful duplication is avoided.

Like Mr. Esdaile, I am not much concerned about the progress of readers to and fro in the gallery ambulatory. Much more distracting is their passage on the main floor. If one's nose is buried in a book, one is but little aware of what is happening in the upper regions. Kindly forgive a somewhat lengthy communication from the librarian of the other modern university that is fortunate enough to be just entering into a £100,000 library building.

I am, etc.,

R. OFFOR, *Librarian*

ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION

9 Gray's Inn Square, London W.C.1.

14.5.36.

The Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.

DEAR SIR,—Mr. Theodore Fyle, in the current issue of the JOURNAL, is at pains to question the accuracy of a statement which is neither contained in my letter in the issue of 9 May, nor in any way implied in it. My letter made no suggestion of aridity in any architectural movement, modern or otherwise, but merely mentioned the arid period which invariably characterises the degeneration of any style into slavish copying.

Whilst yielding to none in my admiration for the best work of the Gothic Revival, that does not permit me to forget the windows of schools in which the eyesight of young children is ruined by sham wooden tracery and stained glass; nor the countless offices in every large town where light, air and sun is denied to thousands of sedentary workers, all day and every day, by conventions which the architects of the period had not the courage to resist. When, therefore, I think of that period when the Gothic Revival overloaded secular buildings with pseudo ecclesiastical ornament (*sic*) I can be, and am, thankful for Liverpool Cathedral and similar buildings which are typical of the reaction against such senseless absurdities.

Yours faithfully, PERCY J. WALDRAM

15a Gloucester Gate, London, N.W.1.

18.5.36.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.

DEAR SIR,—Mr. R. Furneaux Jordan, in your issue of 9 May, draws attention to "some errors of fact" in my letter published on 4 April on the subject of the Junior Members' Committee and the Informal General Meetings.

I mentioned that the Committee was "inaugurated to discuss the problems facing the junior member of the profession." Mr. Jordan denies that this is the case, and refers for correction to the terms of reference of the Committee. On turning to these terms of reference I find "... (c) to keep the Council informed of the views, activities and interests of the younger members of the profession." Does Mr. Jordan imagine that the Committee can keep the Council informed of these interests without previously having discussed them?

I confess to a certain confusion of expression in speaking of the Junior Members' Committee and the Informal General Meetings. When I said "all resolutions and recommendations from this Committee should go direct to the Council and receive careful consideration, full publicity, etc.," I meant, of course, the Informal General Meetings which are now, whether permanently or tem-

porarily, inseparably linked with the existence of the Junior Members' Committee.

While it may be that careful consideration has been given in the Council to resolutions and recommendations, I do not believe that reasonable decisions have been reached. This, I think, is proved by the following facts. Originally, the Junior Members' Committee (with appointed and not elected members, let it be noted) decided that the best policy was not to give publicity to the Informal General Meetings in order, I understand, to encourage the reticent young members to speak. Recently at these meetings it has been made abundantly clear that this supposed reticence does not exist, and a resolution went to the Council that the Informal General Meetings should be fully reported. The policy of the Council with regard to the junior members, I was given to understand, was always that the reporting of their meetings was a matter for the junior members themselves to decide and that it was purely on their own recommendation that the Informal General Meetings were not reported. Now, however, on receiving this resolution, the Council refuse to grant the request for full publicity, thereby withholding the principal means of ensuring circulation of ideas and proper discussion among the junior members. How, one may ask, can the undoubtedly large body of young architects in the North of England who are interested in professional affairs (*vide* conferences of the Northern Students' Association) keep in touch with their contemporaries in the South?

In fact Mr. Jordan has brought no evidence to show that the Informal General Meetings are not the "stifling ground" that I alleged them to be. Instead he sums up the chief objection to them very neatly. "They were approved," he says, "by the Council because the formality of the R.I.B.A. meetings tends to preclude informal discussion after the paper is read." If by "informal discussion" is meant *useful* discussion (and no other interpretation seems possible) then it is surely a terribly unhealthy state of affairs when the Institute, which exists for the advancement of the art of architecture, relegates open discussion to the obscurity of unreported meetings, or meetings which at best receive only a few short paragraphs in its own journal.

At the risk of being called "a Radical and a crank" I would respectfully suggest that it is illogical for the junior members to put up with the present inefficient organisation and functioning of the Institute and with the poor compromises invented to deal with these, the Junior Members' Committee and the Informal General Meetings. The junior members should insist on full and efficient representation for themselves and the *end of all distinction* between the junior members and senior members. The Institute should cater in a disinterested and equitable way for the interests of every one of its members.

Yours faithfully,

R. T. F. SKINNER [A.]

PLANNING OF WORKING-CLASS HOUSES

St. Anns, Nicol Street, Kirkcaldy.

21.4.36.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.

DEAR SIR,—In spite of the great amount of State-aided housing which has been carried out during the past fifteen years, there still appears to be an extraordinary diversity of opinion regarding the principles of good plan design. There is an entire absence of accepted fundamental rules appertaining to the planning of a working class dwelling, based upon the essentials of comfort and convenience.

It would be interesting and helpful if housing architects could be persuaded to state briefly what such principles should be, and it might serve to steady up the haphazard planning which is frequently found. Admittedly it is difficult, if not impossible, to lay down definite rules with regard to planning, but I suggest that so far as the smaller house, built according to a general specification and under State supervision, is concerned, there are several very definite considerations upon which there might be unanimity of opinion.

I give a few of these, not in any dogmatic spirit, but simply with a view to obtaining, if possible, a consensus of opinion from authorities upon such matters.

It will be accepted that the general specification and instructions issued by the Department of Health must serve as a basis for all such plans.

- (1) *Position of Living Room.* I suggest that this all-important apartment ought to face the garden, which, as a rule, is in the rear of the house (assuming that we are dealing with streets of houses). So placed, the greater quietness and privacy are obtained for the occupants, and the housewife has not only the joy of looking out upon the garden, but can also keep an eye upon her child or washing. It is claimed by some that this apartment should face the sun, and although this is very desirable, I consider that the chief considerations should be a pleasant outlook and a peaceful situation away from the noise and dust of the front street.
- (2) *Scullery.* This, too, I think, should be at the rear of the house and adjacent to the living room, preferably with a door direct to the living room. It is sometimes argued that a concrete floor and a cement dado are necessary owing to the splashing of water, etc., but I maintain that the comfort of the housewife who spends so much of her day in the scullery is of primary importance, and that the floor should be of wood, which can be covered with linoleum.
- (3) The hot water cylinder should be taken full advantage of as a heating unit, and should be placed in the scullery, where it can add greatly to the comfort of the occupant, and assist in drying clothes hung on a pulley or horse.
- (4) *Position of Bathroom.* The bathroom ought to be adjacent to or near the scullery to suit drainage and hot water supply.

Since it is quite impossible to clean the side of an ordinary bath placed against a wall, the bath should always be covered with side and end panels.

- (5) In a five-roomed house it is desirable to have the W.C. in a separate apartment.
- (6) In a cottage type of house, at least, there should be a secondary return pipe to conserve the hot water supply and so save water. I believe that during a drought the waste of water is caused largely by the running off of cold water to obtain hot. It is no exaggeration to say that a housewife and family may run off at least a quart of water from the hot tap before suitable hot water is obtained, on an average of ten times a day, which is equal to a wastage of 250 gallons to one hundred houses, or approximately a daily water supply for ten persons.
- (7) A Larder should be large enough to serve also as a pantry, and not be simply a meat safe.
- (8) *Press accommodation* should be definitely included in the plan design, with due regard to the storage necessary for ordinary household equipment and with due consideration for the number of persons who are to occupy the house.

I believe that a discussion upon these points might be of particular interest to housing architects, many of whom at present often find themselves in a quandary in their desire to satisfy the various interested parties. Were they able to quote generally accepted conclusions of architects experienced in housing the result might be beneficial to all concerned.

Yours, etc., TOM BERTRAM [A.]

Notes

OVERSEAS APPOINTMENTS PANEL

The Salaried Members Committee of the Royal Institute have decided to set up a panel of members with experience overseas to whom advertisements of overseas posts and enquiries regarding conditions, terms of employment, and salaries could be referred for their opinion as to the adequacy of salary offered, etc.

As replies to such enquiries are usually required fairly urgently, the panel must necessarily consist of members in or near London who can be readily communicated with either by telephone or letter.

The Committee hope that members with experience overseas will send their names to the Hon. Secretary of the Committee at the R.I.B.A., specifying the countries and districts with which they are familiar.

C.P.R.E. WEEK-END COURSE AT BONAR LAW COLLEGE, ASHRIDGE

A week-end course has been arranged between the authorities of the Bonar Law College and the C.P.R.E. The syllabus of lectures will be as follows:—

FRIDAY, 12 JUNE—

8.30 p.m.—Introductory Address: The Rt. Hon. The EARL OF CRAWFORD AND BALCARRES, K.T., F.R.S.

SATURDAY, 13 JUNE—

9.30 a.m.—The Pollution of Streams and Rivers: Mr. H. F. ATTER (Clerk and Solicitor, West Riding of Yorkshire Rivers Board).

11.15 a.m.—Fires on Commons: Lt.-Col. GUY SYMONDS, D.S.O. (of the Home Office).

5.30 p.m.—Green Belt Round London and other Large Cities: Sir RAYMOND UNWIN, P.P.R.I.B.A.

8.30 p.m.—Village Recreation Grounds: Captain KENNETH SHENNAN (Hon. Secretary, Gloucestershire County Playing Fields Association).

SUNDAY, 14 JUNE—

5.30 p.m.—Education in Schools and how Teachers can help: Mr. A. J. LILLIMAN (National Union of Teachers).

8.30 p.m.—General Debate on "Rural Amenities." Chairman: Mr. G. L. PEPLER, F.S.I. (Chief Town Planning Inspector of the Ministry of Health).

The fee (payable on enrolment), including board and tuition, is £2 os. od.

Further information can be obtained from Mr. H. G. Griffin, Secretary, C.P.R.E., 4 Hobart Place, S.W.1.

VISIT TO S.S. ORION

OPEN TO MEMBERS OF THE R.I.B.A. BY INVITATION OF THE D.I.A.

On Wednesday, 1 July, the Design and Industries Association is to celebrate its twenty-first birthday by visiting the S.S. *Orion* at Tilbury, and an invitation has been extended to members of the R.I.B.A. to join the party. Exact details will be made known in due course, but, as accommodation is limited, applications should be made as early as possible to the Secretary, D.I.A., 6 Queen Square, W.C.1.

By courtesy of the Orient Line the party will leave London by launch for Tilbury, where lunch will be served on board the *Orion*, whose decorations were carried out by Brian O'Rorke [A.]. Afterwards an inspection will be made of the ship.

On the return journey the launch will put in at Beckton, where the Gas Company's producing plant will be examined. It is said to be one of the largest and most remarkable in the world. The party will return to London by launch, arriving about dinner time. The inclusive cost of the trip will be 12s. 6d. per head.

MR. W. C. FENTON, M.A. (SHEFFIELD)

Mr. W. C. Fenton [F.] has had an honorary degree of Master of Arts conferred upon him by the University of Sheffield. He was a founder of the Sheffield and South Yorkshire Society of Architects and Surveyors and helped in founding the Sheffield School of Architecture.

FRANCO-BRITISH UNION OF ARCHITECTS

The 26th annual meeting of the Franco-British Union of Architects will take place at Edinburgh from 22-26 July 1936, inclusive. The preliminary programme is as follows: Tuesday, 21 July.—French delegates arrive in London.

Wednesday, 22 July.—Depart by motor coach for Chester, 9 a.m. Lunch at Stratford-on-Avon, and visit Memorial Theatre. Dine and sleep Queen's Hotel, Chester.

Thursday, 23 July.—Breakfast. Depart Chester 10 a.m. for Edinburgh via Lake District. Lunch at Kendal. Dinner, room and bath at Royal British Hotel, Edinburgh.

Friday, 24 July, to Sunday, 26 July.—In Edinburgh. Breakfast, room and bath. Visits to be arranged with Architectural Association, Edinburgh.

Monday, 27 July.—Members return to London via East Coast route, L.N.E.R.

Tuesday, 28 July.—French delegates leave for Paris.

Tea is included on both days during the journey to Edinburgh. The approximate charge from London and return will be £9.

As the party is limited and hotel accommodation is difficult to obtain at this date, an early reply to the Secretary-General, Lieut.-Col. H. P. Cart de Lafontaine, 11 Suffolk Street, Pall Mall East, London, S.W.1, is necessary to avoid disappointment. Further details, together with the agenda for the 16th Annual General Meeting of the Union, will be sent to all subscribing members in due course.

THE R.I.B.A. FINAL AND SPECIAL FINAL EXAMINATIONS

The following are the dates on which the forthcoming Examinations will be held:—

Final Examination

July 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 16, 1936. (Last day for receiving applications 8 June 1936.)

Special Final Examination

July 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 and 14, 1936. (Last day for receiving applications 8 June 1936.)

THE ANNUAL ELECTIONS

NEW NOMINATIONS TO COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEES

The following nominations have been made by members in accordance with Bye-laws 35 and 56 :—

AS MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

CHERMAYEFF, Serge [F.] : Nominated by Professor Lionel B. Budden, Professor R. A. Cordingley, Joseph Emberton, Edward Maufe, Professor C. H. Reilly, Thos. T. Tait, *Fellows* ; E. Maxwell Fry, Professor W. G. Holford, Raymond McGrath, Basil Ward, L. W. Thornton White, *Associates*.

CORDINGLEY, Professor Reginald Annandale, M.A. [F.] : Nominated by Charles Gustave Agate, W. A. Johnson, Francis Jones, Isaac Taylor, Lt.-Col. George Westcott, J. Hubert Worthington, Sir Percy S. Worthington, *Fellows* ; H. A. Dalrymple, F. Leslie Halliday, W. C. Young, *Associates*.

CULLEY, Norman [F.] : Nominated by Victor Bain, W. L. Duncan, C. E. Fox, B. R. Gribbon, R. Goulburn Lovell, *Fellows* ; Eric Boothroyd, Norval R. Paxton, Thomas F. Winterburn, J. Lewis Womersley, *Associates* ; Percy Morris, *Licentiate*.

GEE, Lt.-Col. Ernest, R.E. (T.A.) [F.] : Nominated by E. Stanley Hall, L. H. Keay, E. Bertram Kirby, Edgar Quiggin, T. Taliesin Rees, Herbert J. Rowse, A. Ernest Shennan, Sir Arnold Thornely, *Fellows*.

GREIG, Baxter [F.] : Nominated by Horace R. Chanter, John Dovaston, Richard B. Ling, Robt. H. J. Mayhew, F. E. Rennie, Lawrence A. D. Shiner, *Fellows* ; Horace Cubitt, R. H. Uren, *Associates*.

GRIBBON, Blakeley Rinder [F.] : Nominated by Norman Culley, C. E. Fox, Lt.-Col. R. F. Gutteridge, A. G. Henderson, Eric W. B. Scott, Frank Tranmer, *Fellows* ; J. S. Allen, G. Alan Burnett, R. Norman Mackellar, John Needham, Norval R. Paxton, *Associates* ; George Maddock, John E. Stocks, *Licentiate*.

HOWITT, Thomas Cecil, D.S.O. [F.] : Nominated by Major Charles H. Calvert, John Woollatt, *Fellows* ; Leslie Darbyshire, A. E. Eberlin, P. Gerrard, Bernard Jessop, F. E. Woolley, *Associates*.

OUGH, Arthur Henry [F.] : Nominated by John Bennett, Chas. Cheverton, J. Leighton Fouracre, Capt. E. Kemeys-Jenkin, William H. May, A. C. Norman, A. Southcombe Parker, *Fellows*.

ROBERTS, Arthur Leonard [F.] : Nominated by Hubert Clist, H. C. Hughes, C. H. James, Basil Oliver, Stanley C. Ramsey, J. Alan Slater, *Fellows* ; John Dower, *Associate*.

SLATER, John Alan, M.A. [F.] : Nominated by W. H. Ansell, Henry M. Fletcher, E. Stanley Hall, Charles Holden, Professor A. E. Richardson, L. Sylvester Sullivan, Sydney Tatchell, *Fellows*.

AS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

DOUGILL, Wesley, M.A., B.Arch., M.T.P.I. [A.] : Nominated by Bernard A. Miller, *Fellow* ; D. L. Bridgwater, E. A.

Ferriby, E. H. Honeyburne, Leonard C. Howitt, F. O. Lawrence, Francis H. Morley, H. Spencer Silcock, *Associates*.

DOWER, John Gordon, M.A. [A.] : Nominated by Professor S. D. Adshead, C. H. James, A. H. Moberly, Stanley C. Ramsey, J. Alan Slater, *Fellows* ; F. H. Carr, S. Rowland Pierce, *Associates*.

AS MEMBER OF THE ART STANDING COMMITTEE

BEWLAY, Ernest Chawler [F.] : Nominated by Ernest Bird, Lt.-Col. R. F. Gutteridge, A. Leonard Roberts, Ingaltton Sanders, H. S. Sawyer, J. Arthur Smith, *Fellows* ; C. Hubert B. Smith, *Associate*.

AS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF THE ART STANDING COMMITTEE

ALLEN, Joseph Stanley, B.Arch. [A.] : Nominated by Victor Bain, G. H. Foggitt, B. R. Gribbon, John C. Procter, *Fellows* ; H. J. Brown, John Needham, Norval R. Paxton, William Tocher, J. R. Tolson, *Associates* ; W. Alban Jones, John E. Stocks, *Licentiate*.

HOAR, Harold Frank, B.A., A.M.T.P.I. [A.] : Nominated by Professor A. E. Richardson, L. Stuart Stanley, *Fellows* ; H. Burton, H. O. Corfiato, Elidir L. W. Davies, W. F. B. Lovett, Alan Marlow, *Associates*.

TRUELOVE, John Reginald [A.] : Nominated by P. D. Hepworth, *Fellow* ; G. L. Cadell, James F. Howes, F. L. Jackman, Bertrand Locke, R. Latham Luke, Frank Scarlett, *Associates*.

WRIGHT, Lawrence, M.A., B.Arch. [A.] : Nominated by Henry A. Douglass, Edwin Williams, *Fellows* ; Hubert Bennett, George Checkley, Wesley Dougill, J. Kenneth Hicks, K. H. Read, *Associates*.

AS MEMBERS OF THE PRACTICE STANDING COMMITTEE

DICKSEE, Bernard John [F.] : Nominated by Harold Dicksee, Lawton R. Ford, E. B. Hoare, Melville S. Ward, M. Wheeler, *Fellows* ; J. Douglas Scott, S. B. Wheeler-Carmichael, *Associates*.

WATSON, William Ernest [F.] : Nominated by Maxwell Ayrton, C. Cowles-Voysey, James S. Gibson, L. Rome Guthrie, A. H. Jones, Arnold Mitchell, And. N. Prentice, W. B. Simpson, C. F. Annesley Voysey, Maurice E. Webb, *Fellows*.

AS ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF THE PRACTICE STANDING COMMITTEE

CLARKE, Edmund Blayney [A.] : Nominated by Chas. E. Hanscomb, R. Goulburn Lovell, Hugh Macintosh, Briant Poulter, L. Sylvester Sullivan, *Fellows* ; Major F. W. Rees, Cyril Saunders Spackman, *Licentiate*.

SNAILUM, Terence Walter [A.] : Nominated by L. H. Bucknell, *Fellow* ; Henry Braddock, Miss Ruth Ellis, Eric Jarrett, Bryan Westwood, L. W. Thornton White, H. Myles Wright, *Associates*.

WALKER, Winston [A.] : Nominated by Albert S. Brickell, Edward Lewis, R. H. Ouzman, H. G. Porter, R. Fraser Reekie, Frank Risdon, Mrs. Williamina K. Walker, *Associates*.

AS ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF THE SCIENCE STANDING COMMITTEE

LOVETT, William Francis Benjamin, B.A., A.M.T.P.I. [A.] : Nominated by Professor S. D. Adshead, *Fellow*; A. G. Armstrong, R. W. Beard, G. Leslie Cruickshank, Colin S. Day, K. Farnfield, W. Bonham Galloway, H. Frank Hoar, J. M. Knowles, Alan Marlow, Alexander Potter, H. Graham Rennie, Ellis E. Somake, William L. Starling, Bernard D. Tracy, Morris L. Winslade, *Associates*.

ATTENDANCES AT COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

SESSION 1935-1936

THE COUNCIL (10 Meetings)

President : Percy E. Thomas (Cardiff), 10.

Vice-Presidents : E. Stanley Hall, 8; Stanley H. Hamp (Beaconsfield and London), 10; Charles H. Holden, 3; Ingaltion Sanders (Southampton), 10.

Honorary Secretary : Henry M. Fletcher, 9.

Honorary Treasurer : Lt.-Col. P. A. Hopkins (Gerrards Cross and London), 7.

Members of Council : Professor Patrick Abercrombie 6; Professor S. D. Adshead, 4; W. H. Ansell, 9; Henry V. Ashley, 9; Robert Atkinson, 7; John Begg (Edinburgh), 9; E. C. Bewlay (Birmingham), 10; Herbert T. Buckland (Birmingham), 7; Joseph Emberton, 3; H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, 9; W. Curtis Green, 6; P. D. Hepworth, 6; Professor C. H. Reilly (Brighton and London), 4; Professor A. E. Richardson, 8; L. Sylvester Sullivan, 10; Sydney Tatchell, 9; Maurice E. Webb, 5; G. Grey Wornum, 8.

Associate Members of Council : W. Naseby Adams, 7; Percival C. Blow (St. Albans), 9; W. Austin Daft (Oxford), 10; Cyril A. Farey, 4; E. Maxwell Fry, 6; R. Norman Mackellar (Newcastle-on-Tyne), 5; Norval R. Paxton (Leeds), 10; Basil R. Ward, 9; Charles Woodward, 9.

Licentiate Members of Council : H. L. Baker (Romford), 0; Stanley A. Heaps, 8; Major F. W. Rees (Croydon), 7; F. R. Taylor, 10; Percy J. Waldram, 3; S. Lunn Whitehouse (Birmingham), 8.

Past Presidents : Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, 0; Sir Raymond Unwin, 0.

Representatives of Allied Societies in the United Kingdom or the Irish Free State : (Northern Province of England) : Harold Oswald (Newcastle), 4; Lt.-Col. George Westcott (Manchester), 6; Lt.-Col. Ernest Gee (Liverpool), 10; Harry Andrew (Hull), 7; Victor Bain (Leeds), 10; J. Mansell Jenkinson (Sheffield), 7. (Midland Province of England) : Alfred Hale (Birmingham), 7; Clement Stretton (Leicester), 9; George P. Allen (Bedford), 7; Claude E. Howitt (Nottingham), 4; E. W. B. Scott (Norwich), 6. (Southern Province of England) : Arthur H. Ough (Dawlish), 10; H. Stratton Davis (Gloucester), 9; A. Saxon Snell (Reading and London), 6; Lt.-Col. R. F. Gutteridge (Southampton), 9; Hugo R. Bird (Brentwood), 8; R. Goulburn Lovell (Eastbourne), 9. (Allied Societies in Scotland) : Col. J. Maurice Arthur (Glasgow), 7; A. F. Balfour Paul (Edinburgh), 5; C. G. Soutar (Dundee), 10; W. B. White

(Glasgow), 0. (South Wales Institute of Architects) : W. S. Purchon (Cardiff), 8. (Allied Societies in Ireland) : J. J. Robinson (Dublin), 7; R. S. Wilshire (Belfast), 5.

Representatives of Allied Societies in the British Dominions Overseas : Philip J. Turner (Canada), 0; Professor A. S. Hook (Australia), 0; W. Gray Young (New Zealand), 0; J. S. Cleland (South Africa), 0; P. P. Kapadia (India), 0.

Representative of the Architectural Association (London) : The Hon. Humphrey A. Pakington, 8.

Representative of the Association of Architects, Surveyors and Technical Assistants.

Chairman of the Board of Architectural Education : T. A. Darcy Braddell, 9.

Chairmen of the Four Standing Committees : L. H. Bucknell* (Art), 9; Professor A. E. Richardson* (Literature), 7; Charles Woodward* (Practice), 8; Thos. E. Scott† (Science), 7.

Chairman of the Allied Societies' Conference : Ingaltion Sanders (Southampton), 10.

Chairman of the Architects' Registration Council of the United Kingdom : The late Major Harry Barnes, 0; and subsequently Sydney Tatchell §, 4.

Chairman of the R.I.B.A. Competitions Committee : E. Berry Webber†, 7.

* Marked thus were appointed after the first Meeting of the Council. Possible attendances, 9.

† Marked thus were appointed after the second Meeting of the Council. Possible attendances, 8.

§ Marked thus was appointed after the fifth Meeting of the Council. Possible attendances, 5.

THE ART STANDING COMMITTEE (10 Meetings) : E. W. Armstrong*, 6; Robert Atkinson*, 0; Henry Braddock*, 3; D. L. Bridgewater* (Joint Hon. Secretary), 7; R. G. Brocklehurst (High Wycombe), 8; L. H. Bucknell (Chairman), 9; N. F. Cachemaille-Day (Joint Hon. Secretary), 6; George Checkley, 4; W. Austin Daft (Oxford), 5; Wesley Dougill (Liverpool), 6; J. Murray Easton, 4; Joseph Emberton, 0; C. Lovett Gill (Vice-Chairman), 4; Stanley Hamp (Beaconsfield and London), 5; Charles Holden, 3; W. M. Keesey (Birmingham), 7; H. V. Lanchester, 0; Raymond McGrath, 1; Hon. Humphrey Pakington*, 1; Professor C. H. Reilly (Brighton and London), 5; A. S. Soutar, 0; T. S. Tait, 3; S. L. Whitehouse (Birmingham), 5; G. Grey Wornum, 2.

THE LITERATURE STANDING COMMITTEE (10 Meetings) : Professor Patrick Abercrombie, 1; Miss J. F. Abram, 2; Louis Ambler, 3; W. H. Ansell*, 0; W. W. Begley (Selsdon), 5; S. E. Dykes Bower, 6; H. Chalton Bradshaw, 4; Professor L. B. Budden (Liverpool) (Joint Hon. Secretary), 3; A. S. G. Butler*, 5; H. O. Corfiato*, 7; H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, 7; P. D. Hepworth, 1; W. G. Holford (Liverpool), 4; H. C. Hughes* (Cambridge), 7; Norman Jewson (Cirencester), 5; Sydney D. Kitson (Oxford), 1; Basil Oliver (Vice-Chairman), 7; Verner O. Rees*, 4; Professor A. E. Richardson (Chairman), 9; A. L. N. Russell, 9; Miss E. W. Scott, 0; J. N. Summerson*, 6; Rodney F. Tatchell, 7; Grahame B. Tubbs (Joint Hon. Secretary), 9.

THE PRACTICE STANDING COMMITTEE (10 Meetings) : J. R. Adamson* (Bolton), 7; Henry V. Ashley, 9; John Batty, 7; Herbert T. Buckland (Birmingham), 6; W. T. Curtis (Vice-Chairman), 7; P. G. Fairhurst (Manchester), 8; A. B. Hayward, 6; Stanley A. Heaps*, 8; B. S. Hume, 3; Arthur Keen (Limpfield), 7; E. Bertram Kirby (Liverpool), 8;

Alderman G. A. Lansdown*, 7; M. W. Matts, 8; William Milburn (Sunderland), 3; Major F. W. Rees (Croydon), 6; J. MacLaren Ross, 6; E. W. B. Scott (Norwich), 7; J. Douglas Scott* (Joint Hon. Secretary), 9; F. Halliwell Shann*, 9; Major C. F. Skipper (Cambridge), 8; L. Sylvester Sullivan, 8; Herbert A. Welch, 6; Geoffrey C. Wilson* (Joint Hon. Secretary), 8; Charles Woodward (Chairman), 10.

THE SCIENCE STANDING COMMITTEE (10 Meetings): R. J. Angel, 9; Victor Bain (Leeds), 7; A. H. Barnes* (Croydon) (Vice-Chairman), 8; O. P. Bernard, 7; A. E. Cameron, 0; F. Milton Cashmore, 5; W. E. Vernon Crompton* (Southport), 7; H. M. Fairweather, 6; Walter Goodesmith*, 8; W. Alexander Harvey (Birmingham), 6; Lt.-Col. P. A. Hopkins*

(Gerrards Cross and London), 2; Alister G. MacDonald, 1; Alan E. Munby, 8; Howard Robertson, 2; Thomas E. Scott* (Chairman), 7; H. D. Searles-Wood (Sutton), 0; Dr. R. E. Stradling† (Garston, Watford), 8; John Swarbrick (Manchester), 9; Francis R. Taylor (Joint Hon. Secretary), 8; R. Minton Taylor, 0; Percy J. Waldram, 6; Thomas Wallis, 6; C. S. White (Welwyn Garden City), 6; L. W. Thornton White (Joint Hon. Secretary), 8; R. C. White-Cooper, 2.

* Marked thus were appointed after the first Meeting of the Committee.

† Marked thus was appointed after the second Meeting of the Committee.

ALLIED SOCIETIES

LIVERPOOL ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL DINNER

At the annual dinner of the Society, held on 3 March, at which were present the President of the Society, Lieut.-Colonel Ernest Gee, the Dean of Liverpool, and the Deputy Lord Mayor, Mr. Percy Thomas spoke of the necessity of employing architects in every building operation, small as well as large. The architect's dream of an England without slums, without "ribbons" or ugly villas, could only be realised if public opinion were educated to appreciate the importance of good building and good planning. Local authorities could do much to help in this way in organising exhibitions, lectures, and so on, and they could do a tremendous amount of good work by seeing that good architects were employed.

"I believe," said Mr. Thomas, "that architects can do more to change England to a country with beautiful, well-ordered towns and unspoilt villages than any other body of men, public or professional. I am firmly convinced that there never was a time when the profession was more fully equipped and competent to carry out that work. The Italians have passed a law, which we might copy, insisting upon the employment not only of a competent architect for every public building, but also of artists and sculptors. Our people should have beautiful houses to live in as well as beautiful things to live with. Liverpool had long set a notable example through its noble public buildings, fine business premises, its great Cathedral, and its modern housing estates."

Lieut.-Col. Gee, responding, said that the general public did not realise the tremendous organisation behind the production of a good building, but he believed that when the man in the street appreciated the team work required, there would be no need for this country to resort to such organisations as the Council for the Preservation of Rural England, or the Panel System.

That these were now necessary was due to the fact that to-day a vast amount of building work was erected without the help of a qualified architect.

Mr. E. B. Kirby, Past President of the Liverpool Society, proposing Liverpool, said it was comforting to think that the city's geographical position, which had militated against its recovery in recent years, might be very much in its favour when the air service between America and Europe came into being, as it might before long.

The essential part of a city was its buildings, and the architects' contribution to Liverpool was the buildings that were worth talking about.

The Deputy Lord Mayor of Liverpool responded.

YORK AND EAST YORKSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL DINNER

At the annual dinner of the York and East Yorkshire Architectural Society, which was held in Hull on 6 March, Mr. H. Andrew [F.], President of the Society, said that jerry builders were a national blight. "Just as traders are compelled to give a certain standard of purity in foodstuffs, so should the jerry builder be compelled to adopt a given standard of value, both in workmanship and material."

On the other hand, hardly anything had been done to cultivate in the minds of the general public—potential clients—a taste for good architecture or even a slight appreciation of good architecture.

The public and many public authorities had no clear idea of the services architects are trained to give to the community.

"His work is not to make pretty pictures, but essentially to plan. We ought not to find large housing estates being developed out of public funds by the sanitary inspector. Town-planning schemes should be prepared by the man who is trained in the art of planning—the architect—not by the man whose mind runs in a mathematical groove."

Mr. Andrews proceeded to suggest that architects might be of assistance to the civic authorities.

"We in Hull have an excellent official department, the majority of the staff being associate members of the R.I.B.A., but we private architects do ask for just a small share of the vast amount of work to be carried out."

He instanced that in many large centres private architects, in rotation, were commissioned by the local authority to design and supervise the erection of a proportion of their building projects, or alternatively, that competitions were held under regulations of the R.I.B.A., thus giving a chance to all members of the profession.

The president of the Institute (Mr. Percy E. Thomas), responding, said that if we were to improve the architecture of the country—and by this he meant not only housing

schemes but buildings in towns and cities as well—they must see that only qualified architects did the job, for which they had been trained.

The toast to "The City and County of Hull" was proposed by Bt.-Colonel Allderidge, who alluded to the chances the citizens had had of obtaining a Humber bridge, and of the opportunity to banish the level crossings, chances which had not been accepted.

The Lord Mayor, in response, said he thought Colonel Allderidge had been a little pessimistic. He was proud of Hull, and he believed its best was yet to come.

He had heard it said that an industrial town could not have beautiful buildings, but such a statement was a fallacy. Not only from an architectural standpoint, but from a business standpoint, it was far better to be able to introduce customers to something that was beautiful than to something that was ordinary.

Mr. C. Leckenby proposed the toast to the guests, and the Sheriff replied.

During the evening music was given by Mr. Edward Stubbs and his Salon Orchestra. Miss Phyllis Hutchinson and Mr. Edwin Draper sang.

DEVON & CORNWALL ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Devon and Cornwall Architectural Society was held on Saturday, 28 March 1936, at the Duke of Cornwall Hotel, Plymouth.

The chair was taken by the President, Mr. E. G. Catchpole [A.], others present being E. Cannon [L.], E. U. Channon [A.], C. Cheverton [F.], W. J. H. Dungey [A.], H. T. Dyer [A.], H. Haughton [L.], C. Lloyd Jones [L.], W. H. May [F.], A. C. A. Norman [F.], A. S. Parker [F.], S. Pool [A.], B. Priestly Shires [F.], W. A. Vercoc [A.], P. M. Ware [A.], G. E. W. Denning, R. Crookes, D. G. Collins, A. F. W. Toms, T. B. Hayes, W. R. Hemson, O. R. J. Merrett, and J. H. Serpell, from the Plymouth Branch and G. S. Bridgeman [F.], John Bennett [F.], J. C. C. Bruce [F.], R. M. Challice, J. Challice [A.], A. Cunes [L.], E. Kemeys-Jenkin [F.], W. Marsden [A.], W. J. M. Thomasson [A.], H. E. Robertson [L.], W. E. Wolff [A.], O. Parker [L.], and A. H. Ough [F.] from the Exeter Branch.

The President, in opening the meeting, asked members to stand in silence as a token of respect to his late Majesty King George the Fifth, the Patron of the Institute.

The minutes of the preceding annual meeting were read, confirmed, and signed by the President.

The annual report and balance sheet of the Society were presented and adopted.

The President referred to the various competitions held by the Society, and asked that new students give their support particularly to the Measured Drawings Competition.

Mr. E. G. Catchpole, the retiring President, then delivered his address, at the close of which a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him. Members expressed their appreciation of the tactful and successful manner in which he had presided during his year of office, and of his untiring efforts on behalf of the Society generally.

The following Officers of Council were elected for the ensuing year:

President, E. Kemeys-Jenkin [F.] (Exeter); Vice-Presidents, Stanley Pool [A.] (Truro), J. C. C. Bruce [F.] (Torquay); Past President, E. G. Catchpole [A.] (Plymouth); Hon. Treasurer, John Bennett [F.] (Exeter); Hon. Auditor, L. F. Tonar [L.] (Exeter); Hon. Secretary, J. Challice [A.] (Exeter); Assist. Hon. Sec., O. Parker [L.] (Exeter).

The retiring President offered congratulations to Mr. Kemeys-Jenkin and invested him with the badge of office. On taking the chair Mr. Kemeys-Jenkin thanked the members for the honour they had accorded him. He assured them that he would do all he possibly could to serve the Society and to preserve the cordial relations which existed among its members.

The members of Council were elected unanimously.

WEST YORKSHIRE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

DIAMOND JUBILEE SESSION

At the annual general meeting held on 23 April, the Society began its Diamond Jubilee Session, for it was on 7 December, 1876, that the first meeting was held of the "Leeds Architectural Association," the parent of the present organisation. In its first year there were some eighty members. To-day the West Yorkshire Society of Architects is a strong and effective institution with five active branches, whose membership roll exceeds five hundred.

The Honorary Secretaries' annual report was presented and adopted, and the Honorary Treasurer's financial statement was also approved, the Society being able to make a further contribution to its Building Fund for permanent headquarters.

Mr. Victor Bain [F.], the retiring President, in moving a vote of thanks to the officers and Council of the Society, said that the success and enjoyment of his two years of office had been due in great part to their loyalty and ungrudging support.

Mr. C. E. Fox [F.], F.S.I. (the first Halifax architect to occupy the position as President of the Society), in thanking the retiring President, said that Mr. Bain had put in two years' good solid hard work, whether in Council or in London, or in encouraging the formation of the Branches. He personally owed a good deal to Mr. Bain's inspiration, and he hoped to live up to his ideals, and those of his predecessors.

It is proposed to hold the Summer Excursion of the Society on 21 May, in the Halifax district, to inspect various Yorkshire manor houses.

The complete list of officers for the forthcoming session is as follows, the result of Council's nomination and a members' postal ballot:

President, C. E. Fox [F.], F.S.I. (Halifax); Vice-Presidents, R. A. Easdale [A.] (Castleford), Norval R. Paxton, M.C. [A.] (Leeds); Hon. Treasurer, F. L. Charlton [F.] (Leeds); Hon. Secretaries, Norval R. Paxton, M.C. [A.] (Leeds), Harold Conolly [A.] (Harrogate); Hon. Librarian, J. Needham [A.], Dip. Arch. (Leeds); Members of Council (Fellows): J. S. Allen [A.], B. Arch. (Liverpool) (Leeds), D. Bowman [L.] (Leeds), Wm. Broadbent [L.], F.S.I. (Leeds), R. J. Edmondson [L.] (Bradford), C. Hickson [F.] (Huddersfield), Alderman Wm. Illingworth [F.] (Bradford), W. A. Ledger [L.] (Leeds), G. Maddock [L.], F.S.I. (Halifax), P. O. Platts [A.] (Wakefield), E. O. Robinson [A.] (Bingley), J. E. Stocks [L.] (Leeds), F. Tranmer [F.] (Harrogate); Associates, G. Alan Burnett [A.], Dip. Arch. (Leeds); H. J. Brown [A.], Dip. Arch. (Aberdeen) (Leeds); Hon. Editor Journal, Norman Culley [F.]; Hon. Editor, "Green Book," Harold Conolly [A.]; Hon. Press Editor, F. Digby Firth.

SOUTH WALES INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

ANNUAL MEETING

At the annual meeting of the South Wales Institute of Architects, held in Cardiff on Friday, 27 March, the following officers were elected:—

President: W. S. Purchon, M.A. [F.].

Vice-Presidents: Lieut-Col. E. H. Fawckner, T.D. [F.].
O. S. Portsmouth [A.].

Hon. Treasurer: H. Teather [F.].

Hon. Auditor: Edwin Smith [A.].

Hon. Librarian: Lewis John, M.A., B.Arch. [A.].

Hon. Secretary: Ivor P. Jones [A.].

In his speech the President, Mr. W. S. Purchon [F.], said that the past year had been a memorable one as for the first time a provincial architect was elected President of the R.I.B.A., and that architect was a member of the society, Mr. Percy Thomas. The roll of past Presidents of R.I.B.A. contains the names of men who were great architects and of others who shone as administrators, but the present President combined these two qualities in a remarkable manner.

Mr. Purchon reported that along with the Hon. Secretary and the Hon. Secretaries of the Eastern and Western Branches he attended a conference of secretaries of Allied Societies and their Branches held at the R.I.B.A. headquarters. "This conference," he said, "serves a very useful purpose in giving our secretaries an opportunity of comparing notes and of co-ordinating their efforts."

"We note with pleasure the steadily growing influence of the Cardiff Civic Society in its attempt to 'Make Cardiff more beautiful.' Similar societies might be started with advantage in other towns in our area."

"The work of this Society reminds me of the various efforts which are being made to improve the standard of design and lay-out in the vast numbers of small houses which are being erected, either by suggestions to builders how such structures should be designed, by endeavouring to correct bad designs which are submitted to local authorities, or by offering the services of architects at very low rates. Yet with all these efforts the bad work continues, and it looks as if more drastic remedies must be adopted if our towns are to be developed worthily and our countryside preserved while some of it still remains."

Mr. Purchon then reported the many successes of the younger members and said that definite steps towards the recognition of the Welsh School of Architecture, the Technical College, Cardiff, for the purpose of the award of degrees were being taken by the University of Wales.

The Institute held exhibitions of R.I.B.A. Prize Drawings and of Architects' Working Drawings. He said that the award of an R.I.B.A. medal for the South Wales area was now under consideration. Nominations of buildings had been received, the R.I.B.A. had appointed Mr. H. C. Stratton Davis as a member of the jury, and it was anticipated that the jury would meet shortly with the object of making the award.

In conclusion he appealed to every member of the Institute to help in their work. Their joint efforts would raise the prestige of this Institute and make it a vastly more influential and powerful instrument for the furtherance of their aims than it has ever been.

NOTTS, DERBY AND LINCOLN ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEETING

The seventy-third annual general meeting was held at the Society's room, 64 St. James's Street, Nottingham, on Tuesday, 12 May 1936, at 7 p.m.

Mr. Claude E. Howitt [F.], was elected President for the ensuing year, and Mr. W. G. Watkins [F.], Vice-President.

The accounts for the year ended 31 March 1936 showed an excess of income over expenditure amounting to £33 16s. 7d., as compared with £5 3s. 1d. for the previous year. The report of the Council showed that the Society was flourishing, and that there was an increase in the membership as compared with the previous year.

In submitting the report of the Town Planning Committee, Mr. H. Alderman Dickman [F.], said that the Town Planning Scheme of the City of Nottingham had been finally approved, with minor variations of the scheme submitted at the public inquiry. The City Council intend to re-plan the built-up areas in the city under the provisions of the Act of 1932 as quickly as possible. In the County area schemes under the Act are in course of preparation by most of the urban and rural District Councils.

An advisory panel is also in course of formation, and some 42 architects in the province have indicated their willingness to act, whilst the Local Federation of Builders have promised to appoint their representatives to the County Panel. With the addition of certain laymen shortly to be selected, the County Advisory Panel will shortly be ready to function, and it is proposed to call a semi-public meeting in connection with this work at an early date.

THE NATAL PROVINCIAL INSTITUTE

ANNUAL REPORT, 1935

The ninth annual report of the Natal Provincial Institute of Architects shows that membership at the close of the year consisted of 47 Practising, 9 Salaried, 2 Absentee and 4 Retired Members, making a total of 62 Members.

The Committee has been consulted by various local bodies and every endeavour has been made to justify this confidence.

The President (Mr. E. M. Powers [F.]) is the Institute's representative on the Central Council, with Mr. Wallace Paton as deputy. Mr. Powers also represents the Institute on the Standing Committee on Education and Examinations.

Among other matters attention has been given to the revision of Borough Building Bye-Laws, and conferences have taken place between members of the Committee and the Corporation Plans Sub-Committee during the year, the most important result being the promulgation of a bye-law in effect that all plans submitted for the erection of a building over a certain amount shall be prepared and signed by a qualified architect. Co-ordination of design and architectural control within the Borough was also given attention.

A deputation from the Institute waited on the Building Plans Committee to explain in detail the proposal that plans should be signed by qualified architects. It is regretted that as the former draft Bye-Law proved not acceptable to the Provincial Council, the Durban City Council felt that no good purpose would be served by re-submitting the suggested Bye-Law even in the altered form and effect suggested by the Institute.

A meeting of the Central Council was held at Capetown in June last. A strong recommendation was made that wherever possible no pupil should be taken into an architect's office unless he has first had at least one year's tuition at a recognised school of architecture, and in no case should a pupil be articulated unless he has obtained the matriculation certificate or its equivalent.

International Congress of Architects

Mr. Robert Howden attended the International Congress of Architects, held at Rome in September last, as representative of the Union Government, the Institute and the Chapter.

SHEFFIELD AND SOUTH YORKSHIRE AND DISTRICT
SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS AND SURVEYORS

ANNUAL DINNER

Mr. Percy Thomas, at the dinner given by the South Yorkshire and District Society of Architects and Surveyors on 1 April, suggested that a competition might be held for architects in connection with the re-planning scheme for the centre of Sheffield. Whether the powers-that-be would agree to adopt such a scheme remained to be seen, but he believed the controlling party was prepared to co-opt private architects in the further consideration of the central re-planning. Mr. Thomas thought that too little was being done about improving cities and towns.

Alderman J. G. Graves emphasised the importance of striking civic buildings and believed that they had a steady influence on the whole community.

THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF THE ARCHITECTS OF
IRELAND

A general meeting was held in the Council Chamber of the Institute on 2 April 1936. The President (Mr. H. Allberry [A.]) in the chair. There was a large and representative attendance.

A report of the meeting between representatives of the Institution of Civil Engineers of Ireland and the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland, in which several matters of mutual concern were discussed, was read and approved.

Mr. Vincent Kelly, B.Arch., proposed and Mr. T. P. Kennedy, B.Arch., seconded a resolution in which some exception was taken to an expression of the Council's views as to the qualifications necessary for the duties of clerks of works. After considerable discussion the resolution was lost by a majority vote.

The President stated that the following resolution, drafted by the National Agricultural and Industrial Development Association, had been approved by the Council, whose action was unanimously approved by the meeting:—*That in the interest of Irish industry and in justice to those engaged in the building industry the Department for Industry and Commerce should insist on the appointment of an Irish architect and engineer in connection with all industrial projects receiving Government protection involving factory construction, even if it may be found necessary to obtain advice from foreign experts acquainted with the particular industry, and further that the work should be done by Irish building contractors.*

Other matters of general professional interest were discussed.

A special council meeting was held on 3 April 1936 to

consider a number of draft changes to the Institute's Articles of Association and Bye-Laws, and with some amendments the draft was passed unanimously, with a direction that they should be submitted as early as possible to a general meeting of the members of the Institute for consideration in principle before being forwarded to the Institute's legal advisers for drafting purposes.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND FIVE COUNTIES
ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION

The twelfth and concluding meeting of the current Session was held in the Galleries of the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists on Friday, 17 April. The chair was occupied by the President, Mr. A. Hale [F.], who referred to the recent death of Mr. Joseph Crouch [F.], elected a member of the Association in 1885, and Vice-President in 1906. He also announced the result of the recent election of officers for the coming Session:—President, Mr. Alfred Hale [F.]; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. S. N. Cooke [F.] and C. F. Martin [F.]; Hon. Secretaries, Messrs. A. M. McKewan [A.] and C. E. M. Fillmore [A.]; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. G. S. Frazier F.S.I.; Hon. Librarian, Mr. S. L. Whitehouse [L.].

A lecture, illustrated by lantern slides, on "Planning and Rebuilding in the Soviet Union," was then given by Mr. G. Stephenson [A.], who has visited the Union on two occasions and has had exceptional opportunities of seeing what is being done there.

For economic, social and cultural reasons much attention is being given in Russia at the present time to town-planning, and the lecturer referred particularly to Moscow, where the new housing schemes will consist of widely spaced blocks of flats from six to fourteen storeys high; where 390 new schools are to be put in hand forthwith, as well as kindergartens, cinemas, sports grounds and dispensaries; and where no less than seventeen new hospitals are to be built within the next ten years. He also spoke of the establishment of a complete traffic scheme for the new city—which will be double the size of the old city—and of the belt of forest and park land, seven miles wide, which will surround it. In connection with the replanning of Russian cities, the lecturer remarked that, as no difficulties arise from private ownership, the town-planner can deal with his problems with a freedom denied to his fellows in other countries.

With regard to the buildings, Mr. Stephenson said that a decided improvement was becoming apparent. A few years ago many of them were definitely eccentric in design, and badly built owing to the shortage of material and the lack of skilled workers; but to-day the buildings were being designed in a more rational manner, and the workers were acquiring a skilled technique. Throughout the Union there were no independent architects, all the work being carried out by ateliers, the members of which appear to be exceptionally well paid.

School Notes

THE LEEDS SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

In recent weeks a series of lectures has been given at the school on the Architect and the Community. On 1 May, Professor Hamilton Thompson, M.A., D.Lit., F.B.A. [Hon. A.], lectured on Medieval Masons—the master masons being the architects of the period, who prepared drawings and acted in a similar capacity to the modern architects. The common idea that the great buildings of the Middle Ages were designed by bishops was false. Little was known of the personalities of the masons, but the buildings themselves and their accounts gave much information about their work and methods.

Throughout his lecture, Professor Thompson emphasised the quality of the construction (which he described as engineering in stone), and the individuality of the mediaeval designer. The Gothic style was, he said, based upon the legitimate use of the material. He referred also to the continuity of development of architectural practice from early mediaeval times to the present day.

In a subsequent lecture, Sir Frederick Marquis, Chairman of

Lewis's, Ltd., lectured on the Architect's Service to Commerce; he emphasised the necessity of buildings that were properly representative of the age in which we lived. The architect must live in imagination the life that was to be lived in his buildings. It was artistically wrong to design an imitation Renaissance building for a thing so characteristic of the 20th century as a department store. Architects must never guess their estimates, but must be exact. He recommended that both architects' and clients' names should appear on their buildings to increase their sense of responsibility.

A concluding lecture was given by Mr. E. B. Gribbon [F.] on the Architect in Private Practice or Partnership. Mr. Gribbon was in favour of partnerships. The tendency was for modern work to involve much more highly specialised types of knowledge, and this could be more easily attained by a firm consisting of partners than by a single architect. He suggested that the best method for a young man to enter the profession was for him to work his way up in an established office. Public architects' offices, he thought, rarely offered enough scope, particularly where work was specialised.

Membership Lists

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

ELECTION : 22 JUNE 1936

In accordance with the terms of Bye-laws 10 and 11, an election of candidates for membership will take place at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday, 22 June 1936. The names and addresses of the candidates, with the names of their proposers, found by the Council to be eligible and qualified in accordance with the Charter and Bye-laws are herewith published for the information of members. Notice of any objection or any other communication respecting them must be sent to the Secretary R.I.B.A. not later than Tuesday, 2 June 1936.

AS FELLOWS (4)

LAW : OLIVER WILLIAM MAKEING [A. 1929]. 11 King's Bench Walk, Temple, E.C.4; "White House," Bishop's Walk, Addington Park, Surrey. Proposed by Arthur Keen, David Barclay Niven and H. B. Creswell.

MAGGREGOR : JAMES, M.A., M.T.P.I. [A. 1915], Head of School of Architecture, College of Art, Edinburgh; 48 Ann Street, Edinburgh. Proposed by Jn. Begg, F. C. Mears and A. F. Balfour Paul.

MACCELLAR : ROBERT NORMAN HOUGHTON [A. 1914], 21 Ellison Place, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; "Red Ridge," Edgehill Road, Ponteland, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Proposed by R. Burns Dick, James R. Adamson and Chas. G. Soutar.

WILLIAMS : GEORGE [A. 1929], Ferres Chambers, Whitefriargate, Hull; "Green Shutters," West End Road, Cottingham, near Hull. Proposed by H. Lidbetter, Frederick J. Horth and H. Andrew.

AS ASSOCIATES (17)

CRUICKSHANK : ALEXANDER STEWART [Special Final Examination]. 148 St. George's Street, Cape Town, South Africa. Proposed by H. J. Brownlee, F. K. Kendall and James Morris.

DUFFY : ARTHUR RICHARD [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool. Exempted from Final Examination]. 32 Lancaster Road, Southport, Lancs. Proposed by Professor Lionel B. Budden, Ernest J. Marshall and Bernard A. Miller.

FORSYTH : WILLIAM LESLIE HOOD [Passed the Examination of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects and elected Associate of the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects and the Royal Australian Institute of Architects]. 352 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. Proposed by K. A. Henderson, Charles E. Serpell and Percy A. Oakley.

GOODING : JOHN FRANCIS ROWLAND [Passed five years' course at the Birmingham School of Architecture. Exempted from Final Examination]. 233 High Street, Erdington, Birmingham. Proposed by John B. Surman, George Drysdale and A. C. Bunch.

GRANT : DOUGLAS ADSHEAD, B.Arch. [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool. Exempted from Final Examination]. 20 Berners Street, London, W.1. Proposed by Professor Lionel B. Budden, T. P. Bennett and Professor S. D. Adshead.

GREEN : DAVID JOHN, A.A.Dip. [Passed five years' course at the Architectural Association. Exempted from Final Examination]. 11 Yarmouth Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk. Proposed by J. Alan Slater, A. H. Moberly and Howard Robertson.

HARDY : RONALD, B.Arch. [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool. Exempted from Final Examination]. 20 Berners Street, London, W.1. Proposed by Professor Lionel B. Budden, J. Ernest Marshall and F. X. Velarde.

MALINS : SAMUEL EDWARD [Passed five years' joint course at the Birmingham School of Architecture and the Architectural Association. Exempted from Final Examination]. 20 Earl's

Terrace, W.8. Proposed by Thos. A. Moodie, Howard Robertson and L. H. Bucknell.

MARSHALL : STIRRAT ANDREW WILLIAM JOHNSON [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool. Exempted from Final Examination]. 225 Willesden Lane, N.W.2. Proposed by Professor Lionel B. Budden, L. H. Bucknell and G. H. Goldsmith.

METCALF : HALL [Passed an Examination approved by the Royal Australian Institute of Architects' Council as equivalent to the Final Examination of the R.I.B.A.]. Illoura Avenue, Wahroonga, N.S.W., Australia. Proposed by Evan Smith, Henry E. Budden and Major-General Sir Charles Rosenthal.

MORENA : NOSHIR BURJORJI [Final]. New Stock Exchange Building, Fort, Bombay, India. Proposed by C. M. Master, Burjor S. J. Aga and D. W. Ditchburn.

NEWTON : ROLAND [Passed five years' course at the School of Architecture, Victoria University, Manchester. Exempted from Final Examination]. "Selwyn," West Street, Bolton, Lancs. Proposed by Professor R. A. Cordingley, William Scott and W. B. Edwards.

REDFERN : BERNARD EDGAR [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool. Exempted from Final Examination]. 57 Prenton Park Road, Prenton, Birkenhead. Proposed by Professor Lionel B. Budden, L. H. Keay and J. Ernest Marshall.

ROBERTS : RICHARD EMRYS [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool. Exempted from Final Examination]. Bryn Derwen, Well Street, Holywell. Proposed by Professor Lionel B. Budden, J. Ernest Marshall and F. X. Velarde.

STEWART : CECIL [Passed five years' course at the School of Architecture, Edinburgh College of Art. Exempted from Final Examination]. 22 Pembroke Gardens, London, W.2. Proposed by G. Grey Wornum, P. D. Hepworth and Stanley Hamp.

TAYLER : HERBERT [Passed five years' course at the Architectural Association. Exempted from Final Examination]. 20 Earl's Terrace, London, W.8. Proposed by Howard Robertson, J. Murray Easton and E. Stanley Hall.

WOOD : JOHN CHARLES SAVILE, Dip.Arch. (Leeds) [Passed five years' course at the Leeds School of Architecture. Exempted from Final Examination]. "Ryecotes," Methley, Leeds. Proposed by Joseph Addison, B. R. Gribbon and G. H. Foggitt.

AS LICENTIATES (7)

BUCKINGHAM : GEOFFREY SAMBROOKE, 29 Tombland, Norwich; 44 Mile End Road, Norwich. Proposed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, Edward A. Hunt and H. Lidbetter.

BURCHELL : NOEL EDMUND IRONSIDE, Newbattle Estate Office, Dalkeith; Barondale House, Newbattle, Dalkeith. Proposed by John Jerdan and the President and Secretary of the Edinburgh Architectural Association under the provisions of Bye-law 3 (a).

CRUICKSHANK : WILLIAM SHAW, H.M. Office of Works, 76 Newton Street, Manchester; Laburnam Lodge, Heyes Lane, Alderley Edge, Cheshire. Applying for nomination by the Council under the provisions of Bye-law 3 (d).

EDMUNDS : REGINALD LEWIS, Diocesan Inspector of Dilapidations, Monmouth Diocesan Dilapidations Board, 63 High Street, Newport, Mon., and "Rouxville," Blaenavon, Mon. Proposed by William H. Scott, Frank S. Swash and Harry Teather.

HOLE : ROLAND RALPH, F.S.I., Engineer and Surveyor, Council Chambers, Haverfordwest; 20 Goat Street, Haverfordwest. Proposed by D. Frank Ingleton, J. Herbert Jones and E. C. Morgan Willmott.

LITCHFIELD: WILLIAM ERNEST, Chief Architectural Assistant to the Twickenham Corporation, Municipal Offices, Twickenham; 25 Tennyson Avenue, Twickenham. Proposed by G. Leonard Elkington, George Elkington and Percy C. Boddy.

ROSENAUER: MICHAEL, 7 Court House, Basil Street, S.W.3; 34 Lowndes Square, S.W.1. Proposed by Maxwell Ayrton, Herbert T. Buckland and W. Walcot.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS 11 MAY 1936

In accordance with the terms of Bye-laws 10 and 11, the following candidates for membership were elected at the Council Meeting held on Monday, 11 May 1936.

AS HON. ASSOCIATE (1)

EATON: WALTER CECIL, C.B.

AS HON. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS (4)

ALABIAN: KARO SEMENOVITCH, General Secretary of the Union of Soviet Architects, Moscow.

NIKOLSKY: ALEXANDER S., Professor of the Faculty of Architecture of the Russian Academy of Arts; Corresponding Member of the Academy of Architecture, U.S.S.R.; Manager of the Architectural Studio of the Leningrad Town Planning Department; President of the Leningrad Section of the Association of Soviet Architects, Leningrad.

SMONOV: GREGORY, Corresponding Member of the All Union Academy of Architecture; Vice-Chairman of the Leningrad Section of the Union of Soviet Architects; Manager of the Studies of Architecture of the Soviet of Leningrad, Leningrad.

TROTZKY: NEY ABRAMOVICH, Professor of the Academy of Arts of U.S.S.R., Leningrad.

AS FELLOWS (4)

CORFIATO: HECTOR OTHON, S.A.D.G. [A. 1933].

REDFERN: JOHN LEWIS [A. 1896], Gillingham.

WHITE: CHARLES STANLEY [A. 1922].

And the following Licentiate who has passed the qualifying Examination:—

ADAMS: PERCY WEBSTER.

AS ASSOCIATES (13)

BRYER: MONTE LEO [Passed five years' course at the School of Architecture, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. Exempted from Final Examination]. Oxford.

BYROM: CHARLES NEVILLE [Final]. Preston.

DAVISON: CHARLES DONALD, B.Arch. McGill [Passed five years' course at the School of Architecture, McGill University, Montreal. Exempted from Final Examination].

FORBES: JOHN [Final]. Edinburgh.

GORDON: HYMAN ISRAEL [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool. Exempted from Final Examination]. Leeds.

GOULDING: GEORGE EDWARD, B.Arch. Liverpool [Passed five years' course at the Liverpool School of Architecture, University of Liverpool. Exempted from Final Examination]. Liverpool.

GRIFFITHS: LESLIE MELVILLE [Final].

HEAD: PAUL ERNEST [Final].

MATTHEW: CHESSOR LILLE [Passed five years' course at the School of Architecture, Robert Gordon's Colleges, Aberdeen. Exempted from Final Examination]. Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire.

MERCER: MISS FRANCES JANE HARVEY [Passed five years' course at the School of Architecture, Robert Gordon's Colleges, Aberdeen. Exempted from Final Examination]. Banchory, Kincardineshire.

MILBURN: JOHN LYNTON, Dip.Arch. Cardiff, P.A.S.I. [Passed five years' course at the Welsh School of Architecture, The Technical College, Cardiff. Exempted from Final Examination]. Cardiff.

PENNY: CHARLES ROYLE [Final]. Wakefield.

PERCY: CHARLES GEOFFREY [Passed five years' course at the Birmingham School of Architecture. Exempted from Final Examination]. Dudley.

AS LICENTIATES (6)

BLACK: ALEXANDER GUY.

GREGORY: JOHN ERNEST EUGEN, Leigh-on-Sea.

JACKMAN: HARRY, Leeds 1.

KIRKHAM: ALBERT VICTOR JOSEPH.

WALTON: SAMUEL STEPHENS, Huddersfield.

WISCHUSEN: FREDERICK GEORGE.

ELECTION OF STUDENTS R.I.B.A.

The following were elected as Students R.I.B.A. at the meeting of the Council held on 11 May 1936:—

AUSTIN: ROBERT PRIESTLEY, 31 Wheleys Road, Birmingham, 15.

BELLAMY: DERYCK THOMAS, Sandfield, Ashby, Scunthorpe, Lincs.

BLAIR: ROBERT CAPPER, 7 Derryvolgie Avenue, Belfast.

BRIGHTLING: SAMUEL CUTHBERT, Flete, Five Ways, near Warwick.

BROCKHURST: JACK SEATON, "Nesscliffe," Leigh Road, Walsall.

COCHRANE: JOHN ROBERT GRAHAM, 33 Sutton Street, Deton Birmingham, 6.

COLLINS: ARTHUR CHARLES, 15 Mosslea Road, Whyteleafe, Surrey.

COSTELLO: FRANK GIBSON, c/o Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Australia House, Strand, London, W.C.2.

COVENEY: GERALD NORMAN, "Durley," Saxon Road, Hoylake Cheshire.

CROSBEE: ERIC HUTTON, 21 Claremont Crescent, Edinburgh, 7.

FORSYTH: WILLIAM LESLIE HOOD, Orient Line Building, 352 Collins Street, Melbourne, C.1.

GOLD: (MISS) PHYLLIS DOREEN, Home Farm, Beechwood, Berkswell, near Coventry.

HAIN: DAVID (JUN.), c/o Miss Laurie, Roslyn, Montrose Street, Clydebank.

HALLIDAY: JOHN LAWRY, Homelands, Styal, near Manchester.

HODGSON: NOEL DUNCAN, 50 Moor Crescent, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

HURD: S. JAMES, 8 Mettrion Square, Dublin, Irish Free State.

HYDE: CHARLES HENRY, 156 Yardley Wood Road, Moseley, Birmingham.

JEWITT: STEPHEN PAUL, 54 Temple Fortune Lane, London, N.W.11.

JONES: ERIC BRIERLEY, "Ellerslie," Gorway Road, Walsall.

KELLY: GEOFFREY SCOTT, 15 Constance Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

LAMB: ANTONY RAYMOND, The Blanquettes, Worcester.

LLOYD: JOHN EDWARD, 170 Rotton Park Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, 16.

LOW: GEORGE THOMAS, Hayhill, Thorntonhall, near Glasgow.

MAYNARD: BRIAN CHARLES, 38 Bramley Avenue, Coulsdon, Surrey.

METCALF: HALL, Illoura Avenue, Wahroonga, New South Wales, Australia.

MEYRICK: STANLEY, 17B Walton Park, Liverpool, 9.

MILLER: GEORGE ALAN GERARD, 130 Park Street South, Wolverhampton.

MOYNIHAN: (MISS) SHEILA ROBERTA, Fairview, Codsall Road, Tettenhall, near Wolverhampton.

PEACE: DAVID BRIAN, 12 Caxton Road, Sheffield, 10.

QUILLIAM: GEORGE CAMPBELL, 5 Micklefield Road, Liverpool, 15.

SHEPHARD: CAMERON LESLIE, 8 St. Germans Road, Forest Hill, S.E.23.

TIPLER: (MISS) JOYCE, Ashcroft, Tamworth-in-Arden, Warwickshire.

TODD: W. WYLTON, Dorland House, London, S.W.1.

WALTHO: GEOFFREY, "Dungoyne," Codsall Road, Tettenhall, Staffs.

WAUGH: EDWARD WALTER RAIL, 7 India Street, Edinburgh.

WEISS: OLIVER SYDNEY, 3 Lillington Avenue, Leamington.

WHITTING: BASIL THORP, 1 Fox Hill, Selly Oak, Birmingham.

WILLIAMS: LAWRENCE G., 8 Boundary Road, London, N.W.8.

WONES: GUY KNIGHT, Thurnby, Danescourt Road, Tettenhall, Staffs.

WYLDE-BROWNE: ACTON WHITMORE, c/o R. S. D. Harman, Esq., Chartered Architect, Box 379, Christchurch, New Zealand.

Notices

BRITISH ARCHITECTS' CONFERENCE, SOUTHAMPTON, 24-27 JUNE 1936

Final arrangements for all the events of the Conference are now being made. It is hoped that all members and students who have not already done so will at once refer to the programme sent to them with the issue of the JOURNAL for 25 April and send in their names without delay and in any case *not later than Saturday, 13 June*, for such of the events as they desire to take part in.

It is expected that there will be a large attendance of members from all parts of the country, and they are urgently requested to arrange for their hotel accommodation at the earliest possible date so as to avoid the risk of disappointment.

The Executive Committee of the Conference have kindly furnished a list of hotels, with charges, together with a plan of Southampton showing the position of hotels, Conference Centres, etc. Copies of these may be obtained on application to the Secretary R.I.B.A.

Members of the R.I.B.A. and the Allied Societies who are officials of local authorities will be cordially welcomed as delegates to the Conference.

THE ELECTION OF THE R.I.B.A. COUNCIL

At the meeting of the Council held on 6 April a resolution was passed deprecating the canvassing of votes at R.I.B.A. Council elections, and it was agreed to publish a note in the JOURNAL informing members of this resolution.

EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF PERSIAN ARCHITECTURE

An exhibition of photographs, organised by the American Institute of Persian Art and Archaeology, to represent the latest work of the Institute's architectural survey will be held at the R.I.B.A. from 9 June to 26 June. The exhibition will be opened at 3.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 9 June by His Excellency the Iranian Minister, M. Hussein Ala. C.M.G. Further details will be published in due course.

ROME SCHOLARSHIP IN ARCHITECTURE EXHIBITION OF FINAL COMPETITION DESIGNS

The designs submitted in the Final Competitions for the Rome Scholarship in Architecture will be on exhibition at the R.I.B.A. from Monday, 15 June to Saturday, 20 June between the hours of 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. (Saturday 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.). The scholarship is provided by the Royal Institute of British Architects, which makes a grant of £750 a year to the British School at Rome. It is awarded by the Faculty of Architecture of the British School at Rome, and is keenly contested annually by the most brilliant students selected from the various architectural schools in the country. The scholar is required to go to Rome to study for a period of two or three years at the British School at Rome. This year the subject of the competition was "A Centre of International Justice."

PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE

The Practice Standing Committee and the Council, in directing the attention of members to the article by Mr. Maurice Webb, Chairman of the A.B.S. Insurance Committee, published in the JOURNAL of 9 February 1935, on pages 456-457, would urge upon members the importance of insuring against claims which may be made against them by clients.

As pointed out by Mr. Webb, only 15 per cent. of independent practising architects in the United Kingdom are insured against such claims and, further, that fact makes it incumbent upon underwriters to charge premiums considerably higher in rate than would be necessary if the profession generally made a practice of insuring.

Members, therefore, who are not at present covered by a professional indemnity policy are urged, both in their own interests and in the interests of the profession as a whole, seriously to consider the points in Mr. Maurice Webb's article and write to the Secretary of the A.B.S. for full particulars of the policies which are obtainable.

THE R.I.B.A. REGISTER OF ASSISTANTS SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS

Members and Students of the R.I.B.A. and the Allied and Associated Societies are reminded that a Register of Assistants seeking engagements is kept at the offices of the Royal Institute.

An assistant seeking employment should obtain from the Secretary R.I.B.A. the necessary form (to be filled up in duplicate) on which particulars must be given as to the applicant's age, qualifications, salary required, references, etc.

The application will hold good for one month from the date of receipt, after which it must be renewed unless the applicant has meanwhile obtained employment.

Architects, whether members of the R.I.B.A. or not, will be furnished on application with the names and addresses of persons desiring employment as assistants, improvers or clerks of works as the case may be. Architects applying for assistants should give the following particulars of their requirements: (1) whether temporary or permanent engagement; (2) junior or senior assistants; (3) particulars of duties and style of work; (4) salary offered.

CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Under the provisions of Bye-Law 21 the following has ceased to be a member of the Royal Institute:—

As Licentiate: Joseph Peter Perera.

Competitions

The Council and Competitions Committee wish to remind members and members of Allied Societies that it is their duty to refuse to take part in competitions unless the conditions are in conformity with the R.I.B.A. Regulations for the Conduct of Architectural Competitions and have been approved by the Institute.

While, in the case of small limited private competitions, modifications of the R.I.B.A. Regulations may be approved, it is the duty of members who are asked to take part in a limited competition to notify the Secretary of the R.I.B.A. immediately, submitting particulars of the competition. This requirement now forms part of the Code of Professional Practice in which it is ruled that a formal invitation to two or more architects to prepare designs in competition for the same project is deemed a limited competition.

COMPETITION FOR SCHEME FOR IMPROVING LAY-OUT OF CLEETHORPES PIER GARDENS, ETC.

The Competitions Committee desire to call the attention of members to the fact that the conditions of the above competition are not in accordance with the regulations of the

Town Planning Institute, which also govern all members of the R.I.B.A. and its Allied Societies.

The Town Planning Institute are in negotiation with the promoters in the hope of securing an amendment. In the meantime members should not take part in the competition.

ASCOT GAS WATER HEATERS, LTD. : EXHIBITION STAND FOR OLYMPIA

Messrs. Ascot Gas Water Heaters, Ltd., are holding a competition, open to British subjects who are members of the architectural profession, for a design for an Exhibition Stand for the Building Trades Exhibition at Olympia in September, 1936.

Assessors : Mr. Keith D. P. Murray [A.].

Mr. G. Grey Wornum [F.].

Mr. F. R. Yerbury [Hon. A.].

Premiums : £100, £25, and £5.

Last day for receiving designs : 6 July 1936.

Conditions of the competition may be obtained on application to Ascot Gas Water Heaters, Ltd., 244 High Holborn, London, W.C.1.

BARKING : NEW TOWN HALL AND MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

The Barking Corporation invite architects practising in the United Kingdom to submit in competition designs for a new Town Hall and Municipal Buildings to be erected at a cost not exceeding £160,000.

Assessor : Mr. H. V. Lanchester [F.].

Premiums : £500, £250 and a further £200 to be awarded as recommended by the Assessor.

Last day for receiving designs : 14 September 1936.

Last day for questions : 1 May 1936.

Conditions of the competition may be obtained on application to Mr. S. A. Jewers, Town Clerk, Town Hall, Barking. Deposit £2 2s.

BELFAST : NEW WATER OFFICES

The Belfast City and District Water Commissioners are proposing to hold a competition for new Office Buildings and Mr. H. Austen Hall [F.] has been appointed to act as Assessor. Conditions are not yet available.

BIRMINGHAM : NEW CENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE, ETC.

The Corporation of the City of Birmingham are to hold a competition for a new Central Technical College, Commercial College and School of Arts and Crafts. Mr. J. R. Adamson [F.] has been appointed to act as Assessor and the premiums to be offered will be £750, £500 and £250. Conditions will be issued in the near future.

BIRMINGHAM : WORKING-CLASS FLATS

The Public Works and Town Planning Committee of the City of Birmingham invite architects of British nationality practising in the British Isles to submit in competition designs for working-class flats to be erected in concrete on the Emily Street and Vaughton Street area.

Assessor : Mr. Louis de Soissons, O.B.E., S.A.D.G. [F.].

Premiums : £400, £250, £150, and £100.

Last day for receiving designs : 11 July, 1936.

Last day for questions : 9 May, 1936.

DARTFORD : NEW MUNICIPAL OFFICES AND ASSEMBLY HALL

The Dartford Town Council invite architects practising in the United Kingdom to submit in competition designs for new Municipal Offices and Assembly Hall.

Assessor : Mr. P. D. Hepworth [F.].

Premiums : 200, 100 and 50 guineas.

Last day for receiving designs : 21 August 1936.

Last day for questions : 29 June 1936.

Conditions of the competition may be obtained on application to Mr. J. James Hurtle, Town Clerk, Town Clerk's Office, Dartford. Deposit £1 1s.

DONCASTER : GRAMMAR SCHOOL

The Doncaster Town Council, the Education Committee and the Governors of the Grammar School are promoting a competition for a new Grammar School. The competition will be open to Registered Architects in private practice having an office within the rating area of the town of Doncaster on 1 January, 1935, to any old boy of Doncaster Grammar School who is a Registered Architect and in private practice, and to the following architects nominated by the President of the R.I.B.A. :—Mr. C. T. Adshead [A.], Mr. Leonard Barnish [F.], Messrs. Buckland and Haywood [FF.], Mr. J. R. Leathart [F.], Messrs. Tatchell and Wilson [FF.], and Messrs. William and T. R. Milburn [FF.].

Assessor : Professor W. G. Newton, M.A. [F.].

Premiums : £200, £100 and £75.

Last day for receiving designs : 17 June 1936.

Last day for questions : 21 April 1936.

Conditions of the competition may be obtained on application to Mr. G. R. H. Danby, M.A., Secretary, Education Offices, Doncaster. Deposit £1 1s.

DUNDEE : COLLEGE OF ART

The Dundee Institute of Art and Technology are to hold a competition for the Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Mr. J. R. Leathart [F.], has been appointed to act as Assessor. Conditions are not yet available.

EDMONTON : NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS

The Edmonton Urban District Council are proposing to hold a competition for new Town Hall Buildings, and Mr. E. Berry Webber [A.] has been appointed to act as Assessor. No conditions are available yet.

FOLKESTONE : PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

The Folkestone Borough Council invite architects of British nationality to submit in competition designs for new Public Elementary Schools, to accommodate 650 children, to be erected at Surrenden Road, Folkestone.

Assessor : Mr. Verner O. Rees [F.].

Premiums : £200, £125 and £75.

Last day for receiving designs : 6 June 1936.

Last day for questions : 31 March 1936.

Conditions of the competition may be obtained on application to Mr. J. A. Wilkinson, Clerk of the Folkestone Borough Education Committee, Education Offices, Old Harvey Grammar School, Foord Road, Folkestone. Deposit, £1 1s.

HOLBORN: PUBLIC BATHS AND WASHHOUSES

The Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Holborn are proposing to hold an open competition for the rebuilding of the Public Baths and Washhouses in Broad Street and Endell Street, and the President has nominated Mr. Kenneth M. B. Cross [F.] to act as Assessor. Conditions are not yet available.

LLANDUDNO: NEW HOSPITAL

A competition is to be held for a new hospital for Llandudno and District with a total accommodation of 150 beds. The first part of the scheme to be built will not exceed 65 to 70 beds. On the nomination of the President, R.I.B.A., Mr. R. Norman Mackellar [A.], of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, has been appointed to act as Assessor. Conditions are not yet available.

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME: BLOCK OF SHOPS AND OFFICES

The Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme are proposing to hold a competition for a new Block of Shops and Offices, and Mr. H. S. Fairhurst [F.], of Manchester, has been appointed to act as Assessor. No conditions are available yet.

NEWPORT, MON.: NEW CIVIC CENTRE

The Corporation of the County Borough of Newport, Mon., are proposing to hold a competition for the lay-out and design of a new Civic Centre. Mr. E. Berry Webber [A.] has been appointed to act as Assessor, jointly with Mr. C. F. Ward [F.], the Borough Architect. Conditions are not yet available.

SOUTH SHIELDS: ASSEMBLY HALL

The South Shields Town Council propose to hold a competition for an Assembly Hall to be erected on a site at the rear of the Town Hall. Mr. Arthur J. Hope [F.] has been appointed to act as Assessor. Conditions are not yet available.

TIMBER "TOURIST CAMP"

The Timber Development Association, Ltd., are holding a competition for the layout and individual design of a group of camp buildings for a holiday camp, in timber.

Assessors: Mr. E. Guy Dawber, R.A., F.S.A. [F.].

Mr. G. A. Jellicoe [F.].

Mr. G. Langley Taylor [F.].

Mr. John Gloag.

Premiums: £150, £50, £25 and three special mention awards of £10 each.

Last day for receiving designs: 26 October 1936.

Conditions may be obtained on application to The Timber Development Association, Ltd., 69-73 Cannon Street, London, E.C.4.

WATFORD AND BISHOP'S STORTFORD: POLICE STATIONS AND POLICE COURTS

The Hertfordshire County Council are proposing to hold a limited competition for new Police Stations and Police Courts at Watford and Bishop's Stortford, and Mr. H. V. Lanchester [F.] has been appointed to act as Assessor.

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA: SWIMMING BATH, WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS AND WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

The Headmaster and Headmistress of the above Schools are proposing to hold a competition for a design for a Swimming Bath and invite practising architects who are members of the Southend Chapter of the Essex, Cambridge and Hertfordshire Society of Architects to submit designs.

Assessor: Mr. Percy G. Hayward [F.].

Last day for receiving designs: 1 July 1936.

Last day for questions: 1 June 1936.

Conditions of the competition may be obtained on application to Mr. H. G. Williams, Westcliff High School for Boys, Eastwood Boulevard, Westcliff-on-Sea. Deposit £1 is.

COMPETITION FOR JOINT RAILWAY RECEIVING OFFICES IN LONDON

The four main railway companies (L.N.E.R., L.M.S., G.W.R. and Southern) are proposing to hold a competition for a design for Standard Joint Railway Receiving Offices in London, and the following have been appointed to act as Assessors: Mr. L. H. Bucknell [F.], Mr. C. Grasemann, Mr. W. H. Hamlyn [F.], Mr. Charles Holden [F.], Vice-President, R.I.B.A. No conditions are available yet.

Members' Column

Owing to limitation of space, notices in this column are restricted to changes of address, partnerships vacant or wanted, practices for sale or wanted, office accommodation, and appointments vacant. Members are reminded that a column in the Advertisement Section of the Journal is reserved for the advertisements of members seeking appointments in architects' offices. No charge is made for such insertions and the privilege is confined to members who are definitely unemployed.

PARTNERSHIPS WANTED

ASSOCIATE (29) B.A.Cantab., seven years London experience, desires to meet established West End architect with view to partnership. Capital available. Reply Box No. 9536, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

SOUTH AFRICAN MEMBER, with 25 years' experience in the profession, wishes to purchase moderate-sized architect's or architect's and surveyor's practice (or partnership) in South, West or South-West England.—Reply Box No. 1456, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

FELLOW is prepared on mutually advantageous terms to place his office (in first-class West End square) at the disposal of a provincial architect, with whom also he will be prepared to collaborate in any London or other work.—Box No. 3046, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

OFFICES VACANT

WELL-LIT roomy suite of offices now available in heart of West End. Lift, good light, moderate rental, ideal for architect or engineer.—Apply Box No. 7536, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

SHARE IN OFFICE

MEMBER is prepared to share office in Victoria Street with another member or professional associate. No clashing of interests need be apprehended.—Apply Box No. 6536, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

MR. GERALD B. BOOTH [L.] has changed his address to Long Rock, Knoll Hill, Aldington, near Ashford, Kent. Telephone number: Aldington 11.

MR. O. HOWARD LEICESTER [A.] has changed his address from 7 Bayley Street, W.C.1, to 6 Southampton Street, London, W.C.1, and the telephone number is Holborn 2879.

MR. R. S. NICKSON, M.A. [A.], has transferred his office from Neston, Cheshire, to 1 Brunswick Street, Castle Street, Liverpool, 2. Telephone No. Bank 3876.

MR. H. KENDALL [A.] has been appointed Town Planning Adviser to the Government of Palestine by the Colonial Office, and his address is: Office of the Town Planning Adviser, Herod's Gate Jerusalem.

NEW OFFICE.

MESSRS. BUCKINGHAM & BERRY, F.S.I. [FF.], architects and surveyors, of 43a Prince of Wales Road, Norwich, have opened a branch office at 146 London Road, N., Lowestoft. Telephone No.: Lowestoft 319. This office is being managed by Mr. E. R. Crane [A.], who will shortly be taken into partnership.

MINUTES XI

SESSION 1935-1936

At the one hundred and second annual general meeting, held on Monday, 11 May 1936, at 8 p.m. Mr. Percy E. Thomas, O.B.E., President, in the chair.

The meeting was attended by about 80 members and guests. The minutes of the tenth general meeting, held on Monday, 20 April 1936, having been published in the JOURNAL, were taken as read, confirmed and signed as correct.

The Hon. Secretary announced the decease of:—

Seichiro Chujo, transferred to Honorary Associateship in 1926;
Francis Baugh Andrews, F.S.A., elected Associate 1889,
Fellow 1928;

Joseph Crouch, elected Fellow 1913, transferred to Retired Fellowship 1935;

Harry Vernon Wolstenholme, elected Fellow 1900, transferred to Retired Fellowship 1935;

George Percy Pratt, elected Associate 1894;

Adrian Elmy Spackman, elected Associate 1891, transferred to Retired Associateship 1932;

Francis John Daniel, elected Licentiate 1912;

Denis Cogswell Maynard Froud, elected Licentiate 1931;

Thomas Martin, elected Licentiate 1910;

Harry Parsons-Jones, transferred to Licentiateship 1925;
and it was resolved that the regrets of the Institute for their loss be entered on the minutes and that a message of sympathy and condolence be conveyed to their relatives.

The following members attending for the first time since their election were formally admitted by the President:—

Fellow:

Chas. Whitby.

Associates:

R. W. P. Anderson.

George Arthur.

A. H. Honikman.

Clifford Sanderson.

Major Vivian H. Seymer.

Licentiate:

A. C. Garwood.

Students:

L. D. O'Brien.

Miss Mary Room.

Miss Phyllis M. Spencer.

The President formally presented and moved the adoption of the report of the Council and Standing Committees for the official year 1935-1936. The Hon. Secretary seconded the motion and a discussion ensued.

The motion having been put from the chair, it was resolved that the report of the Council and Standing Committees for the official year 1935-1936 be approved and adopted.

The President stated that the list of attendances at the Council and Standing Committee meetings had been laid on the table and would be printed in the next issue of the JOURNAL and also sent out to members with the voting papers.

On the motion of the President a vote of thanks was passed by acclamation to Mr. Harold Goslett [F.] and Mr. G. Ronald Topham [A.] for their services as hon. auditors for the past year.

Mr. Harold Goslett [F.] and Mr. F. J. Toop [A.] were nominated for election as hon. auditors for the ensuing year of office.

The proceedings closed at 8.35 p.m.

Architects' and Surveyors' Approved Society

ARCHITECTS' ASSISTANTS' INSURANCE FOR THE NATIONAL HEALTH AND PENSIONS ACTS

Architects' Assistants are advised to apply for the prospectus of the Architects' and Surveyors' Approved Society, which may be obtained from the Secretary of the Society, 26 Buckingham Gate, London, S.W.1.

The Society deals with questions of insurability for the National Health and Pensions Acts (for England) under which,

in general, those employed at remuneration not exceeding £250 per annum are compulsorily insurable.

In addition to the usual sickness, disablement, and maternity benefits, the Society makes grants towards the cost of dental or optical treatment (including provision of spectacles).

No membership fee is payable beyond the normal Health and Pensions Insurance contribution.

The R.I.B.A. has representatives on the Committee of Management, and insured Assistants joining the Society can rely on prompt and sympathetic settlement of claims.

A.B.S. Insurance Department

PENSION AND FAMILY PROVISION SCHEME FOR ARCHITECTS

This scheme has been formulated by the Insurance Committee of the Architects' Benevolent Society and is available to all members of the R.I.B.A. and its Allied and Associated Societies.

The benefits under the scheme include:—

(1) A Member's Pension, which may be effected for units of £50 per annum, payable monthly and commencing on attainment of the anniversary of entry nearest to age 65. This pension is guaranteed over a minimum period of five years and payable thereafter for the remainder of life.

(2) The Beneficiary's Pension, payable as from the anniversary mentioned in Benefit No. 1, but to the widow (or other nominated beneficiary) if the member dies before age 65. The amount of this pension is adjusted in accordance with the disparity between the ages of the member and his wife.

(3) Family Provision. Under this benefit a payment of £50 yearly is made to the dependent from the date of death of the member prior to age 65 until attainment of the anniversary previously mentioned, after which benefit No. 2 becomes available.

Provision can be made for any number of units (of £50 per annum) up to a maximum of £500 per annum.

Pension benefit only may be secured if desired and the pension commuted for a cash sum.

Members are entitled to claim rebate of Income Tax on their periodical contributions to the scheme both in respect of pension and of family provision benefit.

Full particulars of the scheme will be sent on application to the Secretary, A.B.S. Insurance Department, 66 Portland Place, W.1.

It is desired to point out that the opinions of writers of articles and letters which appear in the R.I.B.A. JOURNAL must be taken as the individual opinions of their authors and not as representative expressions of the Institute.

Members sending remittances by postal order for subscriptions or Institute publications are warned of the necessity of complying with Post Office Regulations with regard to this method of payment. Postal orders should be made payable to the Secretary R.I.B.A., and crossed.

R.I.B.A. JOURNAL

DATES OF PUBLICATION.—1936.—6, 27 June; 18 July; 8 August; 5 September; 17 October.

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